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## **October Board Meeting Minutes**

10/11/2016

**Meeting Started:** 7:17 pm

### **Attendance:**

Carol Bossenberry

Russell Yeung

Bob Trowhill

Anne Lim

Chris Ruland

Don Syms

### **Regrets:**

Wendy Clements

Margaret Allen

## **Review Last Meetings Minutes**

*Motion to accept by Carol*

*2<sup>nd</sup> by Anne*

*Motion carried*

## **President's Report**

There was an incident during the Friday night session of the Open House week. Similar behaviour from certain members has been happening in the last while with this last episode being the most confrontational and in addition in front of potential new members which resulted in them leaving in the middle of a session. This prompted me to put out a statement to the general membership explaining the process of how the board works and that this type of behaviour will not be tolerated in any shape or form in the future and that there will be consequences. I have included the statement at the bottom of this report.

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I have been in contact with CES and they asked if we can take someone on (at no cost to us) for a period of time. I have requested a resume and time period but have not heard back.

Also had an inquiry from someone called Danielle who is in the process of setting up a 3 day pickleball tournament for the Ontario Senior Games (55+). This will be in April 2017. I have asked for more info regarding their requirements and our expected participation if any before making any commitments and pricing. Haven't heard back either.

Was looking at the club calendar and noticed that the dates for the Bill Parkes HS Tournament was booked for April. I questioned Penny about it and she said she gave me the wrong dates. The real dates are March 24 - 26. I have corrected this on the calendar and have emailed OBA to change the dates on their calendar as well.

Below is the message that went out to all the members and also posted around the club.

## **A Message from the President**

In the past few months there have been some disagreements between some club members with certain decisions made by the board. At times, this has resulted in confrontations in a rather disrespectful and provocative manner. These seem to be centered mainly on the fees set by the board for this coming season.

I would like to give my perspective of what the board does and to a lesser extent how some decisions are reached. Keep in mind that the executive and board of directors were elected by you, the members, to run and maintain the club as best as they can. The board is made up of volunteers, some if not all spend well in excess of 100 hours a season doing board work. And this does not include any other volunteering they do in service of the club including such things as being openers, helping out at tournaments, etc.

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The executive and board members are elected by the members with the mandate to maintain the club's viability both financially and socially. We administer what has been set out in the constitution and by laws and make decisions on a multitude of things throughout the year. Some of these decisions include setting opening hours, establishing fees for the season, maintenance expenditures, etc. We make these decisions based partly on what is needed to keep the club running, what we can or cannot afford, past experience and to a lesser extent how other similar clubs are run. You, the members, have elected us to perform these tasks. And we do this on our own time without compensation. We have always encouraged at each election process that members take up a board position or volunteer to help out when needed. If members do not wish to participate, we understand. We all have lives outside of the club and we understand that time is precious. Some just want to play the sport(s) of choice and leave the management to others. Having said that, we are not unreceptive to ideas and suggestions members may have. But, there is a process that needs to be followed. Any member may approach a board member and suggest an idea or ideas. This may be accomplished either in person or by email to a board member in a respectful and civilized manner. This will be brought to the attention of the board and if the board deems there is merit then action may be taken. No board member should be approached in a disrespectful manner to explain any action or decision that has been made by the board as a whole. That does not mean that one cannot ask for an explanation. Just follow the process.

In conclusion, the end of the season includes an election. A board is elected at that time to administer the operations of the club. Obviously members who voted for these board members into their respective positions have confidence in these elected officials. If some members object to the decisions made by the board, they are not obligated to belong to the club. Although I will never discourage anyone from not becoming a member, I certainly do not want to coerce anyone to continue to be a member if they are truly unhappy here. There are many other clubs in the area, with I am sure both pros and cons, that one can belong to and play the sport they love. Please be aware that admission to the club is not a right but rather a privilege. The club is not obligated to accept anyone who it feels is detrimental to the objectives of the club and/or its members. Although a rare occurrence, the board also has the right to revoke a membership if it feels that there is justification. There are members of the current board who are second guessing their decision to be on the board. They are wondering why they are putting all this time in and have to put up

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with the disrespectful and confrontational attitudes of some members. I am sure we will not tolerate this kind of behaviour at work, and there we get paid. This is ceasing to be fun and in that case you have to ask yourself why you are doing this.

This reflects generally the opinion of the board. I believe what I have said is reasonable and logical. You are free to disagree with me and/or the decisions voted on by the board. In that case, you should volunteer to accept a position on the board for the upcoming season and put in the time so that you can participate in the decision making process.

- *No response from CES*
- *Seniors tournament will be charged \$300 per day, information will be passed along to Anne when Russell gets more.*

*Motion to accept report by Anne*

*2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris*

*Motion carried*

## **Vice President's Report**

The new season appears to be underway. Aside from a few isolated items to tend to, there was a smooth transition from last season's board to the present board. I'm looking forward to working with this group to run the club as well as having some fun along the way.

It has come to my attention that we have a few and hopefully just a few, disgruntled members. These few members have been quite vocal in making us aware of their displeasure. I find it disheartening, as a volunteer and indeed a member of a volunteer run organization such as this, that even though it has been explained to these members why things are managed the way they are, that they still feel the need to publically debase board members and cause discord amongst other members. It is especially disheartening to know that these members have recently made a decision to not to take open board positions.

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*Motion to accept by Carol*

*2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris*

*Motion carried*

## **Treasurer's Report**

Report submitted

*Nothing discussed.*

## **Fund Raising & Publicity Report**

Nothing to report

## **House Report**

The rentals for the club:

Saturday October 22 (6:30-9) Marg Johnson - pickleball

Sunday November 13 (1-7) Susan Gillespie

Saturday November 19 (6:30-9) Marg Johnson - pickleball

Sunday November 20 (1-5) Darlene Hull

Sunday November 27 (1-5) Paul Trnka

Sunday December 18 (12:30-5) Bertha Dafoe

Saturday December 24 (4pm) stat. holiday Wendy Clements

Saturday January 21 (6:30-9) Marg Johnson - pickleball

Fridays February 3, 10, 17, 24 (1:30-3:30) Wheat School Group

Saturday February 18 (6:30-9) Marg Johnson - pickleball

Saturday March 18 (6:30-9) Marg Johnson - pickleball

Sunday April 30 (1-7) Susan Gillespie

The additional rentals added this month:

Paul Trnka Nov. 27

Marg Johnson Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Jan. 21, Feb. 18 and March 18

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*Motion to accept by Carol*

*2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris*

*Motion carried*

## **Youth Director Report**

The lesson season kicked off during the club's open house week. The first actual lesson with coaching took place Saturday September 24. There was modest attendance of 19 members, four of which were adults, the rest youth members. There were a number of new faces, who will be joining us for lessons this season, with varying skill levels. The challenge will be to advance the novice players to a level that will make things more fun and interesting for them.

Although it is still too early to predict the outcome of the season, interest in the club lessons appears to be steadily increasing with 62 members enjoying lessons on a regular basis. 44 of these members are youth.

*Motion to accept by Anne*

*2<sup>nd</sup> by Carol*

*Motion carried*

## **Maintenance Report**

The club seems generally to be in decent condition. There are a couple of things that we need to keep an eye on:

- While helping Aaron to clean the kitchen the other day, I found what would appear to be traces of a mouse presence. There are traps on the kitchen floor so at this point I will continue to monitor the situation.
- We need to be aware that the heater in the basement hall will need to be turned on once the weather gets colder. Forgetting to do this could be very costly.
- Snow removal needs to be planned. I found that the person that did the job last year, while reliable, was very expensive. Aaron has offered to, as an extension of his outside duties, take care of snow

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removal. Whatever option we decide on should be negotiated and arranged soon.

- Aaron Trowhill has reached an agreement with Aaron Smith (east connected neighbor) to weed whack the east side of the building on a regular basis at no cost to the club. As you know, there have been complaints from the neighboring properties, directed at the club, about maintaining what is perceived to be our property. This agreement between the two Aaron's should make everyone happy.

I would remind everyone that until we manage to get someone to volunteer as a maintenance director, that any and all maintenance issues be forwarded to Russell or myself.

- *Arron will be offered the snow removal – financial arrangements to be worked out between Aaron and Russell*
- *Dehumidifier from Carol will be used to fix the old unit so that we have a spare.*

*Motion to accept by Carol  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris  
Motion carried*

## **Membership Report**

114 Members

- 92 memberships
- 114 bodies

*Motion to accept by Chris  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob  
Motion carried*

## **Tournament Report**

Nothing to report

## **Other Business**

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Our sales items in the display cabinet appear to getting to a critical level, specifically the court shoe supply and black (most popular) grips. It is going to take a considerable investment to restock the shoe sizes that we will require.

Russell: Are you aware of or do you have the supplier contact information? This will need to be taken care of soon so as to be able to best serve our members as they start the new season.

- *Items will be restocked, especially grips (black and replacement)*
- *Shoes sizes will be looked at to determine what is needed to replenished*
- *Anne will approach Keith*
  - o *Not sold on-line*
  - o *Will get price list*
- *Russell has a current price list from Victor*
- *A list of what's needed must be put together before anything is done*

**Next Meeting:** Nov 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm

**Meeting adjourned:** 7:44 pm

*Motion to adjourn meeting by Chris*

*2<sup>nd</sup> by Carol*

*Motion carried*