

Bemidji Curling Club

Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2019

Opening

The regular meeting of the Bemidji Curling Club was called to order at 5:34pm on June 18, 2019 by Kirby Bahr, President.

Present

Kirby Bahr, President
Eric Johannsen, Vice President
Amanda Kelly, Secretary
Steve Johnson, Treasurer
Lanny Cyr, Board Member
Myles McDanel, Board Member
Eileen Campbell, Board Member

Absent

Eric Fenson, General Manager
Josh Bahr, Board Member
Mackenzie Ritchie, Board Member

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Eileen Campbell to approve the May 21, 2019 meeting minutes. Second made by Amanda Kelly. Motion carried.

Approve Agenda

Request by Eric Johannsen to add the website and database to New Business. Motion by Eric Johannsen to approve agenda. Second made by Eileen Campbell. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Not available – financial documents not received prior to meeting

GM and Ice Report

Not available – Eric Fenson not in attendance

Committees

Membership

- Steve Johnson gave the report on the membership committee. They are looking at changes that need to be made to the current membership application and have determined several options for changing the current dues structure.

(5:41 Lanny Cyr arrives)

- Possibilities being considered are:
 - o Developing a weighted membership structure similar to clubs such as Blaine to include a base membership fee with additional fees for league participation. This would include a higher fee to participate in some of the most competitive leagues.
 - o Eliminating the volunteer discount and replacing with a voucher system to prevent members from receiving the discount without fulfilling volunteer hours.
 - o Discussion on having a social membership that would be limited to 3 admissions as a guest,

substitute player for a league, etc.

- Extending season to allow for an early season membership and a late season membership to take advantage of members who would like to begin league curling earlier in the season – as soon as the ice is ready. One idea is to have a split league with one session from October-January and one session from February-April (or something similar). This would be in addition to our regular league schedule, and the split league would play in timeslots not currently used by regular leagues.
- Pricing changes would not be implemented until the Fall 2020 season, but the club members would be notified soon that such changes are coming. Amanda Kelly asked if the club will be able to afford delaying the price increases until the 2020 season. Steve believes that the club can offset this delay in membership fee increase by eliminating several discounts. Discounts to be removed are yet to be determined.
- Steve Johnson will prepare financial documentation and items to be voted on next meeting.

Other

- Discussion regarding all other committees. Eric Johannsen stated that it would be nice to get the committees organized because it seems that no one knows what committees there actually are and who is a part of them. Steve proposed that we decide on several committees. Volunteer coordinator Eileen Campbell should work together with applicable committees, so members are aware of opportunities.
- Proposed committees include:
 - Membership
 - Junior
 - Events
 - Marketing
 - Financial
 - Kitchen
 - Paul Bunyan Bonspiel
- Committees to be voted on at next meeting. Eric Johannsen will create a list of all committees with their current chairs and members (if known) so the information may be shared.

Old Business

USCA Safesport & One-on-One Policy

- Kirby mentioned that there is a lot of language in the policy that is left to interpretation. But if we don't accept this policy, we need to come up with one of our own that meets their requirements.
- Eric mentioned the cell phone policy that states that call phone use is not allowed in the locker rooms and how to enforce. Amanda suggested having signs made for the locker rooms stating this.
- Motion made by Myles McDanel to accept the USCA's policy. Second made by Eileen Campbell. Motion carried unanimously.

Club Banner

- Kirby stated that this is still being worked on.

Club Bylaws

- Amanda was given a copy of the bylaws to get notarized.

Janitorial Job Description

- Eileen stated that these will be completed by the July meeting.

Ice Maker Job Description

- No update – Josh Bahr absent.

Nielson Riese Ice Study

- Lanny Cyr and Myles McDanel attended the city council meeting on this topic. Nothing has been decided at this time.

Volunteers

- Painting has not happened yet. Eileen is waiting for a rainy day.

Mixed Doubles Nationals 2020

- Kirby has been working to obtain sponsorships and has obtained commitments from both Paul Bunyan Communications and Bemidji Coca-Cola
- Has not started selling straight ads at this time.
- All donors contributing \$1000 or more will be considered a major sponsor and will also receive 2 reserved seats at event with recognition signs on the backs.
- Seeking a sponsor hotel to reserve a block of rooms for competitors. Looking for one close to the club. Has made inquiries at several hotels but has not been successful. The host hotel would receive sponsorship recognition and 2 reserved seats at event in exchange for their donation and reserving a block of rooms.
- Lakeland TV is excited about the caliber of curling talent that will be coming to the area and would like to do an interview with Kirby. Kirby suggested asking Jamie Haskell to assist him with the interview since she has curling experience in mixed doubles.
- ThunderTix was mentioned as a potential ticket distribution service for Mixed Doubles Nationals.

Pull Tabs

- No exact numbers available, but profit for the club from each sold box is \$200 (20%).
- Since we are getting commissions on the sale of pull tabs it may be worth selling them another year.

MCA Annual Meeting

- No information available. Club members did not participate.

Drink Prices

- No update.

Sous Vide and Bonspiels

- Myles presented a food cost analysis for the use of a sous vide to prepare and sell burgers at bonspiels and/or after leagues. Estimated expense per burger (at retail costs) is approximately \$2.50.
- Initial thoughts pertaining to the benefits of a sous vide include the creation of a premium product, the ability to prep burgers ahead of time and store in the freezer, and to only prepare what is necessary. This would potentially reduce waste.
- Bartenders could possibly be trained to serve the burgers as they are purchased.
- Initial startup costs of equipment range from approximately \$300 to \$1600 depending on the quality of equipment desired.
- We could reach out to suppliers to receive wholesale food pricing.
- Equipment purchase will be voted on next meeting.

Ice Ads – Vinyl

- No update.

Line of Credit

- No update.

New Business

BSU Community Appreciation Days

- Date of event is August 29th.
- Eric Johannsen and Myles McDanel volunteered to attend. Will have flyers and candy as giveaways.

Website & Database

- Eric and Rob would like to utilize the website to begin selling memberships online but are not sure which payment processing company to use. Stripe had been set up and used at some point in the past but unsure if it is still functional.
- They would like to make the website more user-friendly and useful so that members can find everything they need on it easily and visitors can learn how they can get involved in curling at the club.
- Eric did discuss with Rob the possibilities of streaming events via Facebook Live or YouTube.
- Eileen mentioned that it would be nice to track league standings on the website and in the newspaper.
- Discussion that the marketing committee should help promote the club in other ways that are not online.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Steve Johnson. Second by Lanny Cyr at 7:41pm. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting is Tuesday, July 16, at 5:30pm at the BCC.