

Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club (CVPC), Eau Claire, WI
Board of Directors meeting, Thursday, May 8, 2025
YMCA Indoor Sports Center, Eau Claire, WI 54701

ATTENDEES:

Karen McDermott, Pattie Rogstad, Mike Mai, Carol Wilczek, Dan Bee, Kathleen Skarvan, Steve Wood, Joe Neisinger, Scott Nicastro-USPA rep. Absent: Carolyn Johnson

1. Call to order – 6:02 pm
2. Secretary Report – Kathleen
 - a. April minutes approved as presented.
3. Treasurer Report – Mike
 - a. 40 members paid since the April board meeting. Receipts coming in for leagues, tournaments and lessons. Paid for two light poles, excavating for building, and court maintenance equipment for Lake Halle; building is in progress and the septic and running water installed. Our ending cash is \$88,478.09. The Club will need to pay approximately \$60,000.00 (monies are available in our account) to finish the Lake Hallie building and pay the 2nd half of the shades. It should be noted that the available monies were from outside donations being held in the account for Phase II completion and from club members who specifically designated their donations for the building completion.
 - b. The shades are at the courts and rebound wall. We will install one shade initially to ensure proper location (size of 12x24 ft).
 - c. We received our Pickleball Central annual rewards in the amount of \$295.98 which will need to be spent by August 2025.
 - d. Treasurers report was approved as provided.
4. Membership Report – Steve
 - a. 694 membership accounts are on record with 583 paid for CY2025 and 111 past due. Karen has sent a separate email and final newsletter to those unpaid members discussing the benefits and importance of renewing their membership. A few people responded with their 2025 membership renewal payment. We have 17 new members and a total of 16 membership renewals since the April board meeting. It was requested that we add a receptacle for membership forms at Lake Hallie and McDonough.
5. Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Update/Approval to send Court Use Agreement - Karen
 - a. Approved the Use Agreement and individual waiver presented that had been reviewed by Paul Mirr, attorney. We are requesting that each participant sign the Club's waiver of participation. Karen will provide both documents to BBBS for review and signature.

6. Discussion on topics on Lake Hallie and McDonough open play and location of Round Robin play – Karen and Mike
 - a. “Play at Lake Hallie Courts Day” - May 17, 8 – noon
 - i. The board discussed holding a “Play at Lake Hallie Courts’ Day” to encourage more members to experience open play at the Courts and dispel the thought that Lake Hallie is for more experienced/high level players. It is open to all. Also discussed taking some time to address members’ concerns regarding Lake Hallie and McDonough.
 - b. It was then discussed sending a letter (via email) to the membership addressing concerns instead of doing a “Play Day”. The board agreed to have Karen draft an email message to club members to explain the McDonough Park court situation with the City of Eau Claire and changes to the relationship driven by the city.
 - c. It was suggested and agreed by Kathleen, Ambassadors liaison, to ask members of the Ambassadors committee to attend training on the use of the whiteboard for open play scheduling for the 12 courts at Lake Hallie, and to facilitate the use of the whiteboard. Training is scheduled with Linda Nicastro for May 19, 20, 21 at 9 am, at Lake Hallie. (Due to inclement weather, these dates were cancelled and new dates for training will be set up after June 2.)
 - d. It was suggested and agreed by Dan and Steve, League play co-chairs, to designate Lake Hallie league play courts on the whiteboard during play.
 - e. Round Robin Play - Steve
 - i. There have not been enough courts available for the number of people attending since we are unable to reserve courts for the Club due to City of Eau Claire restrictions. It was decided that a member of the board would meet with participants at the next Round Robin event to explain the situation and to gain feedback from them on their thoughts regarding the issue of available courts at McDonough. The board did approve moving the round robins to Lake Hallie once per week and reserving six courts if participants are open to changing the location for the added court capacity. If the participants are committed to staying at McDonough, we will continue to coordinate with the understanding that round robins will be restricted to whatever courts are open at McDonough at the time of round robin play.
 - f. The Facility Chair, John McDermott, is considering hiring a youth/neighbor to the courts to lock courts every evening for a fee. The board agreed on this direction and approved a payment of \$100/month throughout the outdoor season. John will follow up with the individual to work out the details of schedule, responsibilities, and John will work with Mike regarding payment schedule.

7. Teaching Academy - Karen, Carolyn, Mike

- a. Approached by a club member with two proposals for offering formal pickleball lessons.
- b. The board indicated support for the teaching academy concept although there were a number of questions and concerns to address prior to formal approval. For example: How would the instructors be qualified and vetted? The board would want to approve all instructors, or a new/subcommittee perform that role. Instructors would need to have liability insurance.
- c. Karen will provide feedback to the member and we expect additional discussion at the June board meeting.

8. Committee updates - a few committees provided new updates

- a. Carol - Organized play – intro to tournaments - just show up; no need to register. 100 pickleballs and other SWAG are available donated by USAP. Balls will be used for tournaments or other club-related activities.
- b. Joe – Fundraising Raffle – all 100 tickets at \$100.00 were sold. The drawing is scheduled for June 14, at noon at Lake Hallie. 14 non-members purchased tickets: the remainder purchased by CVPC members. Expense related to raffle, \$36. \$10,000 generated and \$4,000 to be awarded; the Club receives the remainder.
 - i. The board expressed its thanks to Joe for his leadership and sale of tickets, and to Dan and Steve for selling tickets.
 - ii. A board member asked if the Club would run a fundraising raffle annually. It was decided to discuss this topic at a future board meeting.
- c. Karen – Facilities (Lake Hallie) – windscreens needed sturdier ties so were replaced by John, cutting down trees to clean up the area and in the future less leaf cleanup. A whiteboard is in place and other equipment for court maintenance purchased, available for use. The rebound wall is in and will be installed soon. McDonough: a net at McDonough has a cable that needs replacing. The nets are the City's responsibility but as a good faith measure, John purchased a cable (approximately \$35.00) and will replace.
- d. Pattie – Social - Summer Kickoff at Lake Hallie – June 14, 11-2 pm
 - i. Bob Hume is providing pulled pork and planning for 100 people.
 - ii. Suggested that we attempt to get an estimated number of people attending; put this on the website for registration. Pattie to put a notice on Facebook (notice was included in May newsletter).
 - iii. We are asking members to bring chips, cookies, bars, and tables.

- iv. Pattie will donate water.
- v. We have secured five paddle reps to be present, and they are authorized to sell/take orders for paddles. We will also do a paddle swap, allowing club members to bring paddles they own and wish to sell. This will be paddles only.
- vi. The club will sell pickleballs at the social – Karen to give to Joe. Hats available for \$25.
- vii. Dan/Steve - Organized play – come back with a proposal on what amount of fees to use for league awards.
- viii. Organized play – three leagues started in May. 32 men, 20 coed, 24 ladies. Friday night mixed league was cancelled due to low registrations.

9. CVPC Strategy Plan Discussion - Carol and Dan

- a. Carol led a discussion with Dan to review the 2024 Strategy Plan with the board particularly targeted at new board members who joined last Fall. Discussion followed and it was decided to continue to pursue actions from the top two objectives and to refresh the Strategic Plan prior to the October annual meeting. It may be necessary to schedule a separate meeting from the regular board meeting. Top two objectives:
 - i. Improve Membership Communication
 - ii. Increase Year-Round Indoor Play Capacity (Daily and Tournaments)
- b. Action: Carol and Dan to recommend membership survey including the objective and questions.

10. Request from the Chippewa Chamber to reserve courts at Lake Hallie for a September event

- a. Date - September 16, 2025, noon – 5 pm – requested 18 courts but 12 would be acceptable to the Chamber, for a mini tournament for chamber of commerce members.
- b. The board approved the Chamber request to reserve the courts at no fee due to their support of the Club, Lake Hallie court development and their in-kind services (billboard advertising, etc.) and monies committed. Will need to sign usage agreement and receive waivers for all participants.

11. Board Meeting site for the summer months - Karen

- a. Options were discussed and will be determined prior to the June meeting.
 - i. Pattie may be able to offer her conference room at her business
 - ii. Eau Claire Library

iii. Brewing Projekt

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Skarvan, Secretary