

Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club (CVPC), Eau Claire, WI  
Board of Directors meeting, Thursday, February 13, 2025  
YMCA Indoor Sports Center, Eau Claire, WI 54701

**Attendees:**

Present: Karen McDermott, Kathleen Skarvan, Mike Mai\*, Steve Wood, Carolyn Johnson, Dan Bee, Scott Nicastro-USPA rep.

Absent: Pattie Rogstad, Carol Wilczek, Joe Neisinger

\*attended virtually

**1. Call to order at 6:35 pm– Karen McDermott, President**

**2. Secretary Report – Kathleen Skarvan**

- a. Minutes of January 9, 2025, meeting approved as presented.

**3. Treasurer Report – Mike Mai**

- a. Cash ending balance \$71,130.99.
- b. Memberships paid since the January meeting: \$3,030.
- c. Donations specific to Lake Hallie building: \$1,140; \$3370 since our email of 12/26/2024 sharing the donation opportunities: \$7,000 is our goal.
- d. Donations – General: \$2,175; \$5875 since mid-December coinciding with member renewals.  
Lake Hallie Activity
- e. Paid for fencing work on older 6 courts: \$1,545.
- f. Received commitment from Nicolet Bank to sponsor rebound wall for \$5000.
- g. Shades (2) - Total cost is about \$18,000 and plan pay 50% soon to put them on order. Market & Johnson to install; cost to install is not yet known.
- h. Light Poles - No additional sponsors. A Club member proposed and is requesting that Village of Lake Hallie provide a portion of the funds for three of the poles. No response from the Village yet. Light poles are approximately \$7,900 each.
- i. Mike received a request for \$760 from the Facilities Committee Chair for windscreens at Lake Hallie. The board approved the \$760 with the following details:
  - 1) Lake Hallie, 6 northern courts, and 2) replacements for damaged. The plan is to put up 24 versus 34 feet of screens on the north 3 courts on the south fence so people have visibility to those playing on those courts more easily and from picnic tables in mezzanine area.
- j. Mike recommended that the Club fund a light pole as a sign of good faith to Hunt Electric while continuing to seek contributions/donations to cover the Club's expense. Following discussion by the board, approved funding of \$7886.25 and authorized Mike to pay Hunt Electric.
- k. Treasurers report was approved.

**4. Membership Report**

- a. 654 members: 166 past due, 488 renewed memberships as of the meeting.
- b. Steve will send personalized messages to the past due members to engage and share value of the membership.
- c. It was noted that all members need to sign a waiver of liability. Steve will send an email reminder to those who have not and provide details on where to find and sign the waiver.

5. **Slack Discussion:** reached agreement from board members to use the Slack app for all board communications.
6. **Update on the McDonough Park courts** Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) ongoing discussions meeting with the City of Eau Claire Recreation Department: Dan, Karen, Mike met with Steve Plaza and Pat Newark.
  - a. Following in-depth discussions with the city, their relationship and philosophy with the Club has changed. Any group or entity reserving city public parks must have a MOU which includes carrying appropriate liability insurance. Additionally, the Club would not be allowed to conduct pickleball lessons without fees. It is thought that the Club was provided preferential treatment historically regarding this policy.
  - b. Discussion followed this update with agreement by the board to continue discussion led by Karen with Steve and Pat with these requests/actions:  
Compose a letter to the city regarding court conditions and the urgency of the needed maintenance, encourage Club members to call or write to Eau Claire city council members to allocate funds to McDonough for court maintenance, secure Club use of the maintenance shed, continue public round robin play Tuesday and Thursday evenings (city sponsored) with a Club volunteer to administer, Club to continue “adopt a park” and installing windscreens/nets and blowing off courts.
  - c. Due to the conditions now required by the city, the Club will no longer “reserve” courts for open play or other Club sponsored events due to the conditions required by the city, i.e., liability insurance. We do encourage Club members to continue historical morning play at McDonough although we cannot guarantee availability since the city has the authority to reserve to other groups.
5. **Fund Raising** – continued from January meeting update – Mike Mai
  - a. After a discussion, a board majority approved conducting a raffle as a Club fundraiser. It was agreed to designate the funds to Lake Hallie Pickleball @Gower Park Phase II (light poles and building, etc.), and advertise this direction. It was suggested that the drawing be conducted on opening day at either Lake Hallie or McDonough. No final decision was made on this as opening days are weather dependent.
  - b. The board approved and authorized Mike to secure a class A license, needed to conduct a raffle within a non-profit organization. Mike reminded those managing the raffle that we must follow the specific rules related to conducting a raffle and ensure that the tickets are printed with the correct information required by the license. 100 tickets will be offered at \$100 a ticket. Top prize, \$1,000.

Additional Fund-raising Updates

- c. \$52000 for the building, 32000 covered by Dave Marquart: need \$3500 to finish the building.
  - d. Karen will ask John McDermott, Facilities Chair, to develop a list of equipment needs for court maintenance, etc., and request donations of equipment or cash to fund.
6. **Policy/lease agreement for use of Hallie Courts**
    - a. The Club received another request to reserve courts, F45 Fitness.
    - b. Scott reviewed the Lake Hallie agreement to determine if we are allowed to provide permission to other entities to reserve courts and charge fees. It was determined from

that review that the Club may provide permission for other entities to reserve courts but must have authorization from the Village of Lake Hallie.

- c. Mike agreed to approach the Village of Lake Hallie regarding other entities reserving courts and clarify if the Club is authorized to make these reservations and to charge a fee. A draft **usage agreement** was created by Scott, which also serves as a checklist for terms, to be used for the discussion with Lake Hallie. The draft agreement and feedback from the Village of Lake Hallie will be reviewed with the board at the March meeting.
7. **Summer security issues at Lake Hallie** (locking courts, camera system) - Karen
    - a. Need a system for locking courts. Discussion followed on security and using a camera system. **Include this topic on March agenda.**
  8. **Update on Sub-committee for expanding indoor play facilities** – Dan
    - a. Following two meetings, the sub-committee has a list of actions and alternatives to research. A meeting with the YMCA leaders is scheduled for March 10 to explore ideas.
  9. **Organized Play update** (TMDW and Sunday RR) and guidelines – Dan and Steve
    - a. Successful completion of two winter leagues. The third winter league begins on March 1. Round Robins continue to be well attended.
  10. **Change of summer kick off at Gower to June 14** with rain date on June 15<sup>th</sup> – board approved.

There be no other business, the President adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.

11. **Big Brothers Big Sisters event** follow up and request for a rain date of 8/22 – subsequent to the meeting, Karen provided background to the board members via SLACK app on the rain date request and the rationale why it was needed. The board approved via SLACK app to reserve courts for a rain date with two conditions: 1) the rain date is for 2025 only, and 2) does not signify a precedent for other groups reserving the Lake Hallie courts in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Skarvan, Secretary