

## **Middlesex Club Board Minutes – July 22, 2019**

Directors attending (13): Ben Adams; Lisa Cruikshank; Sean McCarthy; Gerrit Veeder; Courtney Darby; Jay Baum; Katie Briggs; Rob Steeves, Carol Kennedy; Alison Firgeleski; Kim Adams; Rosemary Jordan; Justin Byczek

Directors Not Attending (2): Jenny Moles; Dana Dolcetti;

General Counsel: Mike Burke not in attendance

Management: Tad Keating in attendance

Minutes: Approved the June 19, 2019 minutes

### **Presidents Notes:**

- Discussed Board Recognition and Lisa will run a report to see how much this affects the club and we will discuss and vote on it at the September meeting.
- Currently Board members do not pay for guest fees, music night, early calls for tables, president not paying dues.

### **Manager's Report:**

- Thank you to all- everything is running smoothly.
- Member- Guest was a success.
- Swim Meets and Darien Relays all went very well and appreciated everyone's efforts to make them a success.
- Ordering some new picnic tables and usually orders 10-12 new lounge chairs a season.
- Will get a catalog for Board members to look at new updated pool furniture- would love to get feedback for ordering umbrellas, pool lounge chairs and tables.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Expenses are up in several areas over last year in part due to the Accounting Fees for tax fillings.
- Original proposal was provided at tax time.
- The accountants came back once the taxes were filed and explained the MSX taxes took substantially more time than originally planned and requested an adjustment on the fees. MSX settled at a substantially lower amount that was requested.
- Other notable fees showing an increase are IT Support (30%), Website Development (100%) and Survey & Structure (170.4%).

- IT Support is slightly higher due to issues at season open with a glitch in the POS system which required additional assistance from CMIT our IT firm.
- We have secured a new company, Wagner Web Designs, to assist with website development and hosting which can be utilized in conjunction with Communication for small website projects.
- A survey is scheduled to be completed towards the end of summer. Property taxes are also up slightly (7.2%) due to an increase
- With regards to repairs & maintenance, overall we are showing (12.1%) and most areas are on par or have had fewer repairs than in previous seasons at this point in the year.
- Expenses are up in some areas year to date over the previous season in part due to new initiatives as mentioned above. Let's continue to do our best to control expenses while providing great programs for all of our members.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **House and Grounds**

- Capital Assessment study appointment is scheduled for August 6 and will push to have results for the September 4 meeting.
- New lighting equipment installed (including replacement of vandalized lights on front path).
- No new reports of trespassing so hopefully additional lights are a deterrent.

#### **Communications**

- No projects at this point in the season, basic site and membership database maintenance.
- End of season upcoming projects after Labor Day will be to initiate feedback survey's for each committee to membership and Handbook Opt-In/Opt-out email to membership.
- Longer term projects are to review options for a new POS system to be implemented for the 2020 season.
- Another longer term project is reviewing and assessing total technology footprint (servers, machines, printers, wifi, standardizing email etc) for upgrade in 2020.

#### **Membership**

- We currently have 36 families on the waitlist. We have four more waiting out their 30 day period which will bring the waitlist to 40.
- They 3 families are Matthew and Erica Moynihan, Jonathan and Kristin Percy and Michael and Julie McCormack.
- We are running our Member-Guest BBQ this Saturday evening. We currently have 17 families that have signed up and many families have reserved double tables.

- Carol will be at the club that evening to meet prospective members and will be handing out the club tri-fold.
- Membership will also be planning an open club tour on Tuesday, July 30 and will be sending out an email to membership early next week.

## **Tennis**

- Men's tennis season is coming to a conclusion. We have experienced a number of weather related scheduling issues but the teams are all competitive in their respective divisions.
- Men's refreshment list was sent to the Treasurer and the \$50 fee should appear on the next billing cycle.
- The member/guest tournament was held on 7/13 and it was a success with 16 teams.
- The participation in the Monday men's clinic is still lagging from prior years.
- A group of men collected funds to replace the racquet lost by one of the pros.
- Jim and his staff have been very supportive this season.
- Women's teams and match play will also wind down this week. Matches should be completed by Friday unless there is a rainout.
- As we did last year, we are holding the Women's and Juniors end of year celebrations in August and Junior teams concludes on August 2.
- July tennis events that were particularly fun and well attended include: Davis Cup, Pasta, Prosecco and the Pros, and Round Two of Color Wars.
- Jim has done a wonderful job giving a wide array of members a taste of tennis through his FREE events-Serving/Doubles clinics, Green Streak and Working Ladies Night.
- Mardi Gras Ladies Night and Smokey Pros Southern BBQ is scheduled for next week.
- Ilya and Gigi leave early August and Marcello on August 9.
- July has been active on the MSX courts and we have received positive feedback on the pros and tennis program.

## **Swim**

- Darien Relays went great! MSX won and received positive feedback how it is always well managed and organized and no parking issues.
- CCD hosted the past 2-3 years but MSX wanted to see what the Board thinks about hosting again next year since it went so well and everyone knows what they are doing.
- Laura did a fabulous job with the BBQ and their relationship has been great this year. We were able to negotiate with her on both Coaches Appreciation and Counties Qualifies breakfast and have the ease and convenience of getting food at the club for the right price.

- Thank you to Board for donating \$500 for Swim Across America.
- Next year MSX would host 3 home meets plus Darien Relays.
- May need to coordinate if Relays are same night as Men's make up tennis matches and will save parking spots for tennis people to park if necessary.
- Swim Banquet is Thursday, July 25 with raindate on the 26. Pool will close around 4:30 and we will send out a note to club to let members know.

## **Camp**

- Weeks 1-5 have been very successful with record high registrations to date.
- Our new offering of extended day programs are a big hit with the parents-90 early drop offs and late pickups so far (at \$5 each) which is great since it does not cost the club anything extra.
- Drop-ins have also been very popular this year with 61 so far.
- Counselor Appreciation Day was last Thursday and we had a record # of families donate to the cash tip for counselors and staff (40 of 60 camp families donated).
- New specials continue to be well-received by the kids- especially BVSA and the magic workshop.
- MSX Member Tracy Shepard is doing a new music workshop this week (for free)!
- We have 2 more camps to go
- New August members were sent an email about registering for week 7 (July 20-August 2) which is our lowest enrollment week of the summer.

## **Paddle**

- Paddle has been pretty quiet and Summer leagues are wrapping up.
- We are on the list for court work- waiting confirmation on a date.
- Men's paddle is looking into doing a Men's T-shirt and will send info out around Labor Day.
- We had our first meeting with Claire to set up boot camps for Men and Ladies and talk through Viking order as well as securing G-Man again this year.

## **Social**

- The summer party last Saturday was a success (70 ppl) despite attendance being significantly lower than past years. It was a beautiful night and Burgers, Shakes and Fries was excellent again.
- Social committee is considering combining May Kick Off Party and Summer party and doing it in June before people go away or eliminating it since added Adult Game Night. The Summer party is expensive for the club.
- Kelly Kirby will be running the August 16 Family Fun Night. Village Table will do a BBQ with ribs, burgers, dogs, salads etc. Kid entertainment TBD.

- Need to discuss Kids Movie Night for Thursday, August 22 as the big screen didn't work out for the Women's Soccer Final since it was too bright.
- Adult Game Night Saturday August 24 and will be similar to last year in terms of game lineup and subs and salads from Village Table.
- 2 more music nights for the season.

**General Information:**

- Discussed the Strategic Committee and Capital Improvement Committee which will be a committee to help the club grow.
- Strategic Committee will help plan long term goals for the club and build capital and not rely on new membership money.
- Rob will send information to Justin regarding the 2 committees and he will review and work on an outline.
- 3 person Executive Committee was appointed and will be circulated per the By-Laws.
- By-Laws need to have 2/3 vote so 10 out of 15 voting.
- Nominating committee will be sending out blast to membership calling for new volunteers for 2020.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, September 4, 2019