

Middlesex Club Board Minutes –June 15, 2021

7:30-10:25pm EST in person at the MSX Club and via Zoom Call

Directors Attending (15)

1. Sean McCarthy
2. Lisa Cruikshank
3. Jason Perez
4. Ruby Huang
5. Gerrit Veeder
6. Jay Baum
7. Joan Carlo
8. Kim O'Brien
9. Courtney Darby
10. Robert Steeves
11. Katie Briggs
12. Sallie Schmidt
13. Thomas Benevento
14. Bea Repking
15. Lindsay Warnke

Directors Not Attending (0)

Non-Board Officers Attending (2)

1. Camp-Rachel Constas
2. Aquatics-Jodie Scozzafava

Non-Board Officers Not Attending (1)

1. Tennis-Shannon Fitzgerald

General Counsel ("GC"): Andrew Reardon not in attendance

Management: Tad Keating in attendance

Minutes: Tennis chair motioned for the club to ratify May 12, 2021 board call minutes. The motion was seconded by the Vice President and unanimously approved. The minutes were ratified.

President's Notes

- Good start to club opening after rainy Memorial Day Weekend
- Saw strong attendance by members and their guests. Generated approximately \$3k in guest fees \$3k to date

Treasurer's Report:

- Reviewed balance sheet and P&L highlights
- No issues with accounts receivables

Manager's Report:

- One slip and fall incident by snack bar. Put out non-slip runner
- 103 chaise lounges available for use
- Will coordinate with snack bar to improve communications to members on early closing times, due to weather
- Pool hours to be expanded after school year ends
- Will stagger lighting 3 grills to allow for earlier cooking (request from families with younger kids)

General Counsel:

- N/A

Committee Reports:

House and Grounds

- Lester is finalizing the repairs, including new dumpster shed and paddle stairs
- Need to work with paddle chairs and Tad to attach wind screens to paddle courts

Communications/IT

- No updates

Membership

- Current Waitlist : 61, In 30 Day Wait Period : 8, total : 69
- Membership Open House on July 18th

Tennis

- Strong attendance and participation (events, juniors, teams, clinics).
- Updates provided prior to the board meeting:
 - With high demand for leisure/recreation employees, we would like to start negotiating the tennis director contract as soon as possible.
 - To pilot a revenue sharing agreement this summer, we would like to offer non-members an opportunity to fill open tennis clinics during August. Members would get first priority. For example, if a junior one-week tennis camp is \$250, we could charge non-members \$350 (with \$100 going to club).
 - The Men's Program is off to a great start. We have been over-subscribed with player availability for all of our teams and have been rotating players into the line-up each week.
 - We have also started Friendly matches on Tuesday nights to accommodate those players who have not been able to play in league matches.
 - Our Monday clinic is full each week and the Saturday clinic has had tremendous turnout. We are encouraged by the high turnout and enthusiasm from the participants.

Aquatics

- Updates provided prior to the board meeting:
 - We have approximately 157 members registered across all Aquatics programs this summer.
 - We are looking to close registration in the next few days.
 - Preseason practices have run smoothly. We are working out all kinks.
 - Large amount of private swim lesson requests for this season. Our coaches are working this out.
 - All lesson sign-ups are out and almost at full capacity.
 - Aquatics parent meeting is scheduled for June 16 at 7:30 pm.
 - The FCSL is comprehensively using an app this summer known as Swimmingly. We used this for our virtual meets last summer and are familiar with this platform. There is some additional cost associated with using this platform. Since we did not have this included in our budget. It will cost our club an additional \$ 10 per swimmer. For the future seasons, it will be increased to \$14 per swimmer. We have approximately 130 swimmers. We are asking the club to absorb the cost of \$1,300 for this season.
 - Water Polo- FCSL is re-evaluating the name Midgets for the 2022 swim season.
 - Middlesex Club will be Hosting Darien Relays July 6th 5:30 pm warm up 6 pm start

Camp

- Will work with club manager to install sanitizing stations for the tents
- Updates provided prior to the board meeting:
 - Camp begins on Monday
 - All weeks are full - some weeks with big waitlists:
 - Sarah & Jess are training counselors this Thursday.
 - Village Table increased camp lunch price from \$5.75 to \$7.99 per day
 - Camp blog has been updated
 - Decision on an additional camp week (August 2-6) will be made after camp is up & running
 - On 5/21/21, CT OEC said campers and staff only need masks while INDOORS - which is bathroom only for MSX camp since everything else is outdoors

Paddle

- Updates provided prior to the board meeting:
 - Director of Platform Tennis Search Committee formed: Kevin Nyarady, Kara Gregory, Brian O'Hagan, Courtney Osgood, Sean McCarthy, Joan Carlo, Jay Baum
 - Search committee had their first meeting on 5/24. The committee put together a job description. Each person was tasked with finding how/where job postings could/should be posted.
 - A MSX LinkedIn page was set up on 5/29
 - APTA (American Platform Tennis Association) posted on 6/7.
 - We have since received resumes and are meeting with prospective candidates
 - Court maintenance will take place within the coming weeks. Reilly has been extra busy this year as there has been a significant number of use on courts this past season. We are on their schedule and hope to have the work done in the coming weeks. Reilly will also be hanging our new windscreens.

- Club provided a recycling bin for bottles/cans at paddle courts
- Beginner pickleball is every Tuesday night from 8-9:30. The opening clinic filled up with 4 courts. It will continue thru the summer with the addition of a Round Robin on Sunday 6/27 from 3-4:30.

Safety

- Updates provided prior to the board meeting:
 - Discussed slip and fall incident and preventative measures including non-slip runner and signage
 - Safesport and Background checks will continue to be discussed by the Safety Committee, but will not be required for the 2021 Summer Season Employee

Strategic Planning

- Aiming to get the strategic planning/capex survey out in the next week.
- Updates provided prior to the board meeting
 - Survey was beta tested by strategic planning group and a small group of volunteers
 - Would like to provide members 2-3 weeks to complete (end of June/early July)
 - Strategic Planning needs time to review & interpret results (2-4 weeks)
 - Strategic Planning needs to put recommendations together to share with Board (2-4 weeks)
 - Goal to implement projects after club closes for the season

General Information:

Unfinished Business

Safety chair motioned to discuss Director of Racquets. The motion was seconded by the Membership chair. The motion was approved by all directors except two opposing votes. The motion was passed to discuss Director of Racquets.

Safety chair motioned to enter Executive Session. The motion was seconded by the Vice President and unanimously approved.

Entered Executive Session at approximately 8:10pm and concluded at approximately 9:30pm. Minutes were not taken during this Executive Session.

The non-board officers and manager were asked to rejoin the zoom and the board call resumed at approximately 9:30pm.

New Business

- Treasurer motioned to increase membership fees (dues plus facility assessment) by 10% effective October 1st. This could be further adjusted pending input from the strategic planning committee based on potential capital improvement projects. President seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all directors except one opposing vote.
- The snack bar vendor requested increasing menu prices by 50 cents for each item to account for increased operating and labor costs. The increase will be communicated to the club members.

- President indicates that all department heads proposed changes on renewal contracts need to be presented and reviewed by board of directors
- Safety chair discussed reopening the clubhouse and tennis pavilion with normal operating standards.

Communications Chair motioned to adjourn the board meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice President and unanimously approved.

The board meeting adjourned at 10:25pm EST

Next regular board meeting scheduled for July 13th.