Lake Placid Curling Club Board Meeting Minutes

Date: January 21, 2025

Board of Directors:

- Kimberly Weinrick, President
- Dott McMenemy, Treasurer
- Katrina Dearden, Secretary
- Jackie Damour, Membership
- Mark Hofschneider, Website
- Aimee Lynch, Marketing & Social Media
- John Omohundro, Special Events
- Andrew Chary, Member At Large

Present:

Kim, Jackie, John, Andrew, Katrina

Call to Order: 7:10 PM

President's Remarks: Kim shared words of gratitude to each LPCC Board Member for endorsing the opportunity to serve the Wounded Warrior / Invictus Games Training for Wheelchair Curling. The Gary Sinise Foundation made the agreed $1,500 donation to the Club for volunteer time and use of stones. She noted that the LPCC volunteers were all so moved by the community's enthusiastic participation including school classes, local reporters, visitors to the area and Veterans from St Joes. Their practice scrimmage was a proud moment for the club, and the veteran athletes loved the brooms up ceremony and said they were bringing LPCC & Saranac Lake with them to the Invictus Games. Kim also conveyed Coach Marc DePerno's thanks towards the 15+ LPCC volunteers who assisted in training TEAM USA athletes for the upcoming Invictus Games in Whistler.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the previous meeting were approved with a second from Andrew Chary. Katrina Dearden will ensure Mark Hofschneider receives minutes from the two prior meetings to update the website.

Donations and Acknowledgements:

- An LPCC donation of $200 was approved for the Albany Curling Club, nonprofit, in memory of Rich Merritt. A true curling advocate in Albany, from Saranac Lake, bringing our clubs together every year.
- The upcoming friendly match with Albany Curling Club for Jan 25 was discussed by Jackie and John, noting reminders about logistics and the collaborative spirit of the event.

Injury Updates:

- Roger S is recovering from his recent curling fall, with his discussions about additional pebbling on the ice's sidelines; it was also noted that Roger may like to purchase curling shoes. Kim will provide a dish wishing him a speedy recovery from the club.
- Pete B, after a serious fall during the Learn to Curl, will be reimbursed for his second season dues, and the board also agreed to provide dishes for him and his wife; Kim will deliver on Monday.

Winter Carnival Involvement: Katrina Dearden, serving as the liaison to the Winter Carnival Board, discussed preparations for the carnival's curling events. John O is coordinating the ice preparation, on Pontiac Bay for outside curling, which is expected to have good conditions this year. The board decided to use a donation jar as charging a fee is no longer supported by the Winter Carnival Committee

Membership Growth: The club's membership has increased for the second season to eight teams; next year we hope to expand back to nine teams for optimal engagement and management, having a weekly bye team helps support the sub roster

Operational Updates:

- Evening curling at Civic Center is scheduled for Thursdays in March; due to earlier seasonal constraints, there was no open ice at the season open (in part due to the Civic Center hosting Tupper Lake youth hockey as their coolant broke early in the season)
- A proposal was made for a possible subsidized rate for the Thursday curling sessions, using funds from the Invictus Games donation, if there are not 12 curlers for the Thursday evening curling. Unanimously approved by the attending board members.

Youth Curling Initiative: Plans for two youth curling sessions in March are underway, capping students at 15-20 total; logistical support involving local schools and potential reduced ice fees during 'dead ice time' are in discussions, with more to come.

Merchandising and Marketing:

- Moving forward, the board agreed to source LPCC merchandise from a new vendor following discussions about delays from a local shop.
- Sue Whitcomb will temporarily handle social media responsibilities during Aimee Lynch's maternity leave; with Board approval we are putting her forward as part of our slate of new Directors during the April Annual meeting.

Board Positions and Transitions:

- There will be upcoming vacancies for the President and Treasurer positions, as Kim and Dott will roll off of the Board;

members are encouraged to consider potential candidates. Special recognition was given to Dott McMenemy for her financial stewardship and Kimberly Weinrick for her leadership during a time of transition as she prepares to close out her term.

Adjournment: The meeting concluded with a call for continued engagement and support for the club's activities and initiatives.

# # #