

## **FINAL**

### **Poplar Heights Recreation Association Board of Directors Meeting**

Date: June 5, 2018  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Location: Far Upper Deck Area, Poplar Heights

Roll Call: (X indicates those present)

X Shari Kane, President  
X Barb Mayer, Vice President  
X Mark Weitz, Treasurer  
X Dan O'Grady, Secretary  
X Erik Autor  
Chris Cook  
X Matt Borman  
X John Grossmann  
My Hoa Kaas  
X Shawn Kline  
Mike Nicholson  
Rob Reynolds  
X Cynthia Wilson, Registrar

### **Girl Scout Presentation**

Just prior to the board meeting, members of Girl Scout Troop 4724 gave a presentation offering to "adopt a small piece of land at Poplar Heights so we can create a safe and sustainable environment for animals." The Troop would gather up litter and identify and remove invasive plant species in a selected area of club land. The project, if approved by the board, would be launched in late fall. The board welcomed the proposal.

### **Call to Order**

A quorum being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM. More than a dozen PHRA members, most of them honorary members, were in attendance to observe the meeting.

### **Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Dan, seconded by Shawn, the board unanimously approved the draft Minutes for the Board Meeting for May 2.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reported that the club has \$336,058 in checking accounts, \$662 in PayPal, and \$129,415 in annuities. He stated that the club appears to be short on revenue from dues but that he needs to crunch the numbers again to try and ascertain why this is the case. He said three club members are still delinquent in their dues. He noted that the budget amount for interest income was incorrect: it should have been \$2000 instead of \$2600.

The Treasurer noted that the club has six shares that have been turned in recently. The Registrar reported that three of those shares have been sold, that offers have been made on two more and that left one share to offer to the next person on the list. She told the board that 16 shares had been turned in so far in 2018 and that 13 had been sold as of the June board meeting.

The Treasurer passed around a copy of the latest budget picture and pointed out several highlights, which include the new tennis deck and new internal fence along the deep end of the pool. The budget also includes unanticipated legal fees due to attorney consultations in connection with the CORE proposal to install a bubble over the PHRA tennis courts. The Treasurer cautioned that the club's budget situation this year is "dire," not least because of many unexpected repairs such as the swimming pool pump and heater.

### **Special Committee to Assess CORE Bubble Proposal**

The chair underscored her determination to move quickly on forming this Special Committee, which will consist of two board members and five club members. She asked Erik Autor to read aloud the draft recruitment notice for club members who might be interested in serving on this committee. John Grossmann raised an objection that the notice excludes honorary members, who might be able to offer their expertise. In addition, John opined that PHRA tennis players would object to a requirement in the notice to consider bubble bids other than CORE's. Having an alternate contractor would mean that our tennis players would enter into a 15 – 20-year relationship with a tennis pro they did not know. Alan Gall also expressed regret that the board would entertain bubble bids other than CORE's and thought it made no sense. (Several board members clarified that a decision on alternate bids had not been made yet) Kristin Fitzgerald suggested that the committee's mandate in the notice appears excessive, and that it would be better to bring the CORE proposal to a vote first and then discuss the wider ramifications. Barb Mayer cautioned that the special committee and all members should consider the bubble proposal as a starting point in a negotiation and remember that if the bubble proposal were to be approved by the membership, the next committee and board would need to negotiate a proper business contract with CORE.

Erik Autor suggested there may be some confusion about the CORE Director's salary for the regular season (May-Sept) and the bubble proposal which would be for the winter season (Oct-April). Erik said that an information sheet about the issue is a crucial first step. There was some spirited discussion that included many club members in attendance, covering how the committee members would be selected (by the board at the July meeting), why this process is taking so long and whether Alex might rescind his offer, and what the

committee's main tasks should be, and whether the goal is to get this issue to a membership vote (yes). One club member asked what the PHRA attorney had advised regarding a membership vote regarding the bubble proposal. PHRA's legal counsel advised that the "minimum" threshold would be approval by a two-thirds vote of a quorum meeting (which must consist of one-fifth of all 335 shareholders, or 67 voters).

John Grossman offered a motion, seconded by Matt, to allow honorary members to serve on the special committee. The motion passed 5-4, subject to research into the By Laws to ensure this is allowed. By consensus, the board agreed to limit honorary members to one slot on the committee. Shari noted that as president, she too would be present when the Special Committee meets.

By consensus, the board outlined the main tasks that the Special Committee should undertake: 1) make a recommendation on how the membership vote should be structured; 2) provide an information sheet on the issue to be distributed to the club membership; 3) make a recommendation to the board on the draft resolution that the club membership will vote on.

The board projected a time line that would be reflected in the recruitment notice (which Erik is charged with finalizing, with Matt's assistance): completion by September to allow time for preparing the mid-October annual meeting.

### **Lifeguard Staff Meeting**

Barb reported that this May 25 meeting had gone well, although she expressed concern that the large number of lifeguards on the roster (27) might impact their ability to learn their respective duties if they are called up only now and then. She noted that Titan has agreed that at least one lifeguard on duty will "walk the deck" rather than stay in the chair. This will allow for more direct interaction with pool users, especially in the shallow end. Barb noted multiple complaints from club members that the pool is closing too quickly because of purported thunderstorms. There was discussion about the club's policy about reimbursing the training and equipment fees of lifeguards, and that this applies only to guards who are club members or renters.

A club member complained that her ability to use the lap lanes is often hampered because children swim or cross into them. Shari said she would press the lifeguards to be more diligent. The club member asked the board to consider having a lap lane for adult swimmers when swim team practice takes place in the morning between 8-11 a.m. The board noted that this would be difficult because lifeguards are not on duty then. The swim coaches double as lifeguards for swim team members during those times. The board indicated that Adult Lap Swim would resume June 23: 10-11 a.m. on Saturdays (when swim meets are not taking place) and Sundays.

### **Tennis Pavilion**

The board heard that the new tennis pavilion is almost completed and that the new fans, with lights, have been installed, and that the gutters are up. The electrical connections should be finished this week.

### **Update on Splash Registration System**

Mark reported that the new system requires a special member account number – that does not correspond to the club membership number – or the member’s last name. A notice was sent out to explain this.

Mark asked the board to consider charging an annual fee for prospective club members to remain on the waiting list.

### **Plumbing Work**

By consensus, the board decided to bring in a plumber to repair the leak and the drainage issue in the drinking water fountain. The board agreed that if the plumber concludes that the fountain cannot be fixed, that a new fountain should be purchased and installed – preferably one that would allow water bottles to be filled. The drinking fountain is a crucial asset, and is also a county regulatory requirement.

### **Maintenance and Landscaping**

- The board heard that the basketball hoop got broken during the first few days of the season, and appears difficult to repair. The club may have to purchase a new one.
- A club member complained that the club has many mosquitoes and bees, and asked if the club could consider a mosquito treatment program. The board noted that such programs are quite expensive.
- A club member asked if more sand could be supplied to the volleyball court. The board agreed to take a look, and to check on the costs.
- Barb commented that the club appears in need of more regular weeding and trimming, and that the mowing of the field has seemed to be behind schedule. She said she would consult with the current landscaper and a previous landscaper to assess their capabilities and interest in a more systematic approach.
- Dan asked that the board consider the recent arborist survey of trees as a priority, given the safety issue for club users, and commit to spending the budgeted \$7,000 on trees in the immediate pool area. Some board members agreed on this approach. Barb Mayer suggested that the board should reexamine the earlier decision to include 7k for tree maintenance in the proposed budget in light of the fact that we are over budget.

## **Tennis**

Matt reported that the club will proceed on a fence repair that will cost \$2500, well below the competing bid. The club received \$1500 from our insurance firm for this project.

Matt also indicated that a new storage shed has been purchased and should be put together soon. He said new tennis nets and wind screens will be ordered shortly, although the wind screens will not be put up until the fence is repaired.

## **July 4 Party**

Barb expressed concern that July 4 is coming fast and arrangements for the club's annual party appear somewhat uncertain.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

(Notetaker: Dan O'Grady, Secretary)

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