

Rutland Rocks Curling Club

Minutes of the Fourth Annual Meeting

The Rutland Rocks Curling Club, Inc. (the Club) held its Fourth Annual Meeting at 4125 US Route 7, Pittsford, Vermont on Sunday, April 3, 2011. Twenty-three members attended the meeting: Bill Anderson, Linda and Nate Dansereau, Dianne Lyver, Nancy Murphy, Bruce Jenson, Glenn Campbell, Don Lajoie, Artie Oken, Andrea Coppola, Mary Lou Webster, John Tower, Holly and Rod Citro, Alex Pritchard, Bob Miller, Joan Wise, Nancy Cristelli, Dean Mooney, Chuck Pirotrowski and Doug Weber. We also had three guests joining us.

A social time preceded the meeting, which began at about 5:30. Thanks to all for providing a very delicious dinner! The Annual Report, Financial Statements and the 2011/2012 Budget had been distributed to all by e-mail previously.

The meeting began with words of thanks and encouragement at how the 10/11 season had gone from Club President Dianne Lyver. The addition of many new members and league play were the notable achievements of the season.

The minutes from the Third Annual Meeting, held March 28, 2010 were accepted, as written, by the membership.

Nancy Murphy, Club Secretary/Treasurer then presented the Secretary's Report, reviewing the enrollment in the club, the attendance at the two Open Houses, four Learn to Curl sessions and the weekly club curling sessions. We currently have forty-six members, twenty-five of whom returned from the 09/10 season with twenty-one new members to the club. We averaged seventeen curlers per club curling session, and had twenty-three people participate in our Learn to Curls.

In addition to regular Club activities, the RRCC participated in several other activities: Friday Night Live in August, the Harvest Festival, the Halloween Parade, the Oakley corporate event, and the second charity event with the two Rutland Rotary Clubs sending a total of twelve Rotarians to learn to curl and compete in a short play-down for bragging rights. While the fundraising was not as focused as last season's event, all participants had a great time.

The Treasurers Report followed. As of March 31, 2011 the Club had a balance of \$32.97 in the checking account and \$1,747.00 in the savings account for a total of \$1,779.97 cash on hand. Ice fee paid by members brought in \$550 to help support the Club, and the 10% surcharge on Goldline orders brought in an additional \$180 in revenue. After all additional revenue from 50/50 tickets, RRCC Gear sales and pre-season memberships are included, it is expected that

the Club would have realized a gain of approximately \$500. (A final Financial Report will be sent with these minutes, at the close of our Fiscal Year, which ends on April 30th.)

There were seven items on the agenda for discussion by the membership:

- 1) *Board of Directors* – The Board suggested, and the members approved, the addition of one additional position on the Board of Directors, bringing the total to seven. There were three openings on the Board for the upcoming season. Linda Dansereau, Chuck Piotrowski and Dean Mooney were proposed to fill the open positions. There were no nominations from the floor, and the three nominees were approved unanimously. The appointment of Officers followed, below is the Board of Directors for the 2011/2012 Season:

Dianne Lyver, President
Linda Dansereau, Vice-President
Nancy Murphy, Secretary/Treasurer
Nate Dansereau, Don Lajoie, Chuck Piotrowski
and Dean Mooney, Board Members

- 2) *New Board led committee structure*: The Board announced a new structure which will allow members to become more involved in club organization and activities. The following committees were announced:
 - a. Ice Prep/Equipment: Don Lajoie
 - b. League Play: Dianne Lyver
 - c. Promotions: Chuck Piotrowski
 - d. Club Development: Linda Dansereau
 - e. Bonspiels: Nate Dansereau
 - f. Fundraising: Dean Mooney
 - g. Special Events & Membership: Nancy MurphyNancy will send an e-mail detailing the duties and estimated time commitment for the committees and request the members get in touch with Board members to volunteer.
- 3) *Promoting the RRCC and Curling* – The members discussed the promotional events that Club members undertook this past season, which included Friday Night Live, the Halloween Parade, Harvest Festival, press releases, media calendar listings, etc. It was decided to pursue all of these avenues as well as to investigate the use of PEG-TV. There was also a discussion of how to bring in additional users – outreach to school groups, weekday users, and additional fundraisers (Rutland Mental Health, based on the success of the Burlington Charity event). A request was made that we develop generic “business cards” for members to distribute to individuals interested in the club to remind them of our schedule of events.

- 4) *League play* – With one season of curing under our belt, we discussed ways to improve the experience for all. The Board will take all input from the Annual Meeting and the questionnaires to “tweek” the way we ran the leagues this year. Dianne spoke of having a “Skip’s Meeting” at the start of the season so that all Skip were aware of the rules, etiquette, speed of play, etc. Awards were also presented to the winners and runners up in both leagues: Sunday Winner: Team Anderson, Runner-Up: Team Gauthier ~ Wednesday Winner: Team Mooney, Runner-Up: Team Nate. Congratulations to ALL!
- 5) *Additional Curling*: Nancy announced that there is a possibility for the RRCC to reserve selected Friday nights next season for additional curling. The members indicated that they would like to see Friday nights used for fun nights, skills clinics, Learn to Curl Clinics, etc. The issue of Open Curling was also discussed – with league play there were very few nights with sufficient open curlers to actually play any kind of game. The concern is that the RRCC will lose members who are not able to commit to league play if there is no consistent open curling opportunity. One solution would be to have odd numbers of league teams so that there would be more curlers available for open curling. We also discussed the possibility of having an on-line sign up for open curling.
- 6) *Bonspiels*: Nate Dansereau spoke about the fun that members have had participating in outside bonspiels, and encouraged all members to consider getting out and participating in a bonspiel next season. Not only are bonspiels great opportunities to curl on dedicated ice, participants can learn from the more experienced curlers you will meet.
- 7) *Safety and Etiquette for All*: Nancy brought up our very good safety record for the past few seasons – we have had very few accidents, and no major injuries. We discussed using the ice prep time each night to talk to all members about safety and etiquette – which will be even more important as members go out to participate in bonspiels.
- 8) *Old/New Business*: Nancy thanked all of the members for their willingness to volunteer through this season. Participation in the pre-season events, Open Houses, special events and helping out with nightly snacks has been outstanding!

The evening ended with the Fifty/Fifty Raffle drawing. Thank you to all for participating, and especially to Artie Oken, the winner - AGAIN! Once again, Artie donated the money back to the Club ~ thank you Artie!

Linda Dansereau presented a gift and card to Bill and Nancy from the members. Thank you!

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15pm
Respectfully submitted, Nancy L. Murphy