

Little Neck Swim and Racquet Club  
Monthly Meeting  
June 16, 2008

Board Members: Margaret Derrick, Daryl Mitchell, Carole Sharpe, Jeanene Wolfe, Kevin Stewart, Nancy Barbachem  
Committee Chairs: Patti Nardone, Grace Carlson, Bill Gill, Diane Yates  
Staff: Shawn Sabia  
Guests: Robert Hedrick, Stacy Harvey, Sue Flora

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Meeting opened by Margaret. Requested any changes to the May minutes. Motion to approve May minutes by Daryl . Seconded by Nancy. Minutes approved.

Guests:

Robert Hedrick addressed the board as follows: He has been a member for many years. He currently has a membership which includes his current wife and two children. He is using his ex-wife as a day care provider and has been told this is unacceptable. He understands the concerns about the issues of abuse but hopes we can find a way to accommodate his family by making allowances for their care provider situation. Margaret stated we are trying to do so. This is what the board has come up with to address Robert's situation, as well as those of some other members. For child care providers, we will issue a membership card which is inactive, charge \$1 per visit, they must be registered with the manager, anyone can be a day care provider, and we will waive the 5 visit limit.

As for the issue of who can sign up under a family membership, we looked to the bylaws which state "Membership shall include one individual as the head of household, who shall be the member, and any dependents residing in the same household shall be included in the membership." Instead of defining who is a dependent, we will use the 'residing in the same household' as the defining factor, as long as they are in some way a family unit.

Bill was concerned about the fee for a babysitter to bring kids up for a 45 minute swim practice and having to pay \$1 per visit. This fee has been charged even with the nighttime practices this year. Margaret stated that the board didn't think instituting a flat fee would be fair this year since the pool has already been open and there have been many day care providers already registered. Kevin said we are trying to define a rule for this year but we will look at the flat rate next year. Bill feels this will affect a lot of members and even though the fee is not exorbitant, many members will be falling under this when it has been allowed in the past. Jeanene stated we have to do this because we have had lots of abuses over the past years and we are forced to set rules to control that. Margaret stated that any time you make a change, there will be someone who is

upset. Grace stated that as a member who pays for her family, as a working parent, why should she have to pay a fee for her provider to bring her member children here to use the pool? Carole stated we are trying to simplify our rules, and if someone else is using the facility, they need to pay for the usage of the facilities. Shawn stated that we have 13 registered day care providers, last year we had 22.

Motion by Jeanene with a second by Kevin to use the following criteria for daycare providers and to further clarify the definition of membership: Issue a card which is inactive, charge \$1 per visit, they must be registered with the manager, anyone can be a day care provider, we will waive the 5 visit limit. From our bylaws, "Membership shall include one individual as the head of household, who shall be the member, and any dependents residing in the same household shall be included in the membership." Instead of defining dependent, we will use the 'residing in the same household' as the defining factor, as long as they are in some way a family unit. Passed unanimously.

Email votes were as follows:

1. The board has decided to charge a flat rate to our various independent contractors for their use of our facility. The summer time brings additional part time contractors that we have not established rates for, as the charges will begin in June we will need to vote by e-mail today on this matter of policy. Margaret has discussed with Shawn their various rates and earnings. The charge to each contractor for use of the facility will be \$45 per month for lessons taught. This fee will be increased by \$5 for **each visit** for non club members or the contractor will need to pay this fee out of their earnings.

Below are the charges for each:

- Yoga/ Aqua aerobics - \$80 for 12 sessions
- Private Swim lessons -\$20/ 30 minute lesson
- Group Dive- \$90/8 lessons for members or \$130/8 lessons for non-member (our suggestion to include \$5/visit)

Shawn and Margaret discussed the non-member charge and thought it to be \$5 for each lesson, if there is a difference that we are not accurate on please let us know so that we can adjust what we charge the instructors. Please vote:

YES- to charge \$45 per month NO-and give feed back as to why.

After much discussion, the following was decided:

After investigating it has come to our attention that summer flyers have gone out and non-members will be charged more then members to attend lessons as in the past. The yoga and dive instructors have not been given the information about the guest fee increase in a timely manner. We will further discuss how to incorporate the \$5 guest fee per visit into these lesson fees for next summer. For now the \$45 flat rate per month will be charged to the instructors and they will in turn charge non-members more then members. The extra \$5 per visit guest fee will be implemented next year. Motion passed.

2. The clubhouse AC unit is broken and needs a \$1500 repair. Shawn has it lined up to be fixed before the rush of June parties. He needs our approval ASAP. Please vote yes to approve the repair. Vote no if you are not in favor of the repair now. The vote passed unanimously.

#### Manager's Report – Shawn Sabia

The AC was fixed and is now broken again. The first 2 episodes were 2 different things. The repairman is coming back out tomorrow. Margaret asked if Shawn thinks he is doing a good job? Shawn stated that he believes so but tomorrow will tell more. Sewage- one pump has gone out, they are coming to check it out tomorrow and it could be pretty expensive. The court 3&4 fuse box is starting to melt and the lights are completely out. The toilets have been gurgling. The diagnosis has not been made yet.

Bob from MidAtlantic will come to the next tennis committee meeting, July 9<sup>th</sup>, to talk about his recommendation for resurfacing the courts. Shawn called Trafford's corporate office and they did not know of our situation. The local office never passed it on. He is waiting for Trafford Corporate to come back and let us know what will happen. Grace asked how long will we let this go? Margaret stated that we will wait to hear back from the corporate office since they are now involved and this is forward movement.

#### Membership – Shawn Sabia

375 paid regular members and 73 annual members for a total of 452 members  
49 new members this year: 31 new annual and 18 new regular  
Total members are dead even for this day last year

Daryl stated that Goodman is not categorizing new member shares correctly. Shawn will get list to Daryl so he can get it fixed. Kevin stated that we've lost 49 members this year. Daryl stated that he had been concerned we would see a drop off in membership due to the economy but it doesn't look like this will happen at this point.

#### Swim Team – Bill

Bill thanked Shawn and his staff for their excellent job, swim team is doing great as usual, 328 swimmers, 178 families, 28 new families to the team. Had an excellent well-run time trials, it was long but all swimmers got to swim all strokes, even swimmers who in the past might not have tried some of the strokes. They will set up Friday evening and have the first meet this Saturday. New timing system worked great and everyone loved it. Thanks to the club for continuing to support All Stars which allows them to have the funds to make these purchases.

#### Social – Patti Nardone

Planning to have the first Wednesday night dinner on June 25<sup>th</sup>, it will be Italian night, they have discussed selling beer and wine during the dinner hour, Patti

and Nancy will pour themselves, they have also had requests for Friday night happy hours so this would be a way to gauge if that is wanted. Daryl stated we have to get our insurance coverage squared away before we start that, our current coverage does not allow us to sell even though our ABC license allows it. Margaret stated we should table that until the insurance is established and Daryl thought it may be done before then. Patti will have bracelets for paid families to monitor who has paid. Kevin stated they need to really advertise to make sure folks know about it. Jeanene stated that it started out slow last summer but picked up as the summer went on.

Shawn said the guards are now staffing a Wednesday fun shift, letting them choose what they want to do, so they can do something fun for the kids. He also asked the kids to get some local talent to play on Wednesday nights (gratis) to add to the atmosphere. Patti said the social committee is planning the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade right before the pool opens, and contacting an entertainment company to have some inflatables for the kids. They want to do something really grand for July since the pool will be under construction in the fall and they want to maximize the social budget now. Grace expressed concern about parking for the tennis tournament and others coming for the pool if there is a parade. Shawn offered to put the cones up the night before to limit parking to the front grassy areas. They will also have hot dogs and hamburgers. Patti stated they are also looking at ideas to use the rented TV for the kids or youth while it is here.

Tennis – Grace Carlson

We are looking at trying to have the rented TV here for the summer so it will be here for Wimbledon, the summer Olympics and the US Open, so Barbara has looked into it and it would be \$350 to have it through September. We do not have rental insurance, they do not offer it. It is under Barbara's name right now. Carole stated there is a lot of risk having it here. Kevin was worried that we cannot move it since there are no wheels and we also risk someone taking it. Jeanene asked if our club insurance covers it in any way? Margaret would prefer it be moved to one of the side rooms when it is not being used so it is out of harms way. Kevin stated we need to put it under the name of the club when/if we renew it instead of having it under the name of a member. Margaret stated this is their budget to use, as long as we can make sure it is safe by moving it out of the way when it is not actually being used. Shawn will see if they have a stand with wheels, and if there is another company which offers insurance.

Looking at having the adult-child tennis tournament on July 26<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of August 9<sup>th</sup>, will use 5 courts. Motion by Margaret to approve the use of 5 courts for this event, seconded by Jeanene. Approved unanimously.

Met with Elizabeth Connor and her mom about the GTA junior tournament, went over the proposal and made a few changes to have it in only 1 day, planning for it to be on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. The GTA will be the weekend before but since it is only one day each weekend and only 6 courts, the tennis committee

voted to approve her plan. Her plan is to get 6 girls and 6 boys to play; she is looking for teens. Her funds would go to the same charity as Narh's. The fee would be waived for a charity event that is club sponsored. Margaret stated she needs to know they might be in port-a-potties by then. Motion by Nancy to approve the junior GTA event, seconded by Daryl. Approved unanimously.

July 5<sup>th</sup> is the actual day of the women's single Wimbledon championship, and will have breakfast, free event, supervised for juniors on the courts.

TTF tournaments: Voted as a committee and they will move forward with the June 21<sup>st</sup> date in the afternoon. They ran them last year with swim meets on the same day and it was not a problem. Tony will forward all the dates going forward, will only use 4 courts this time due to short notice but may need more in the future.

Committee wants to start the junior team again based on lots of member feedback. Our club would play other clubs and Stacy and Stephanie will work with the pros to get that going. They do want to get going on this so they can involve the entire club. It is level 1 and up. Shawn stated Tony is holding off for the funding issue to be resolved. Margaret stated he can proceed because he is not under contract yet so that is not what is holding this up. Kevin stated he gets 85% of what he takes in according to the old fee structure. Carole said they are fixing the TTF concerns in the pro contracts. Margaret said we are going to a flat rate but the board is not standing in the way of either of the pros in doing these events, we have not asked them to wait until they are under contract, their not moving forward has been their choice. We are looking at making changes to the contract but this is not holding anything up.

They are looking at doing a charity junior tournament in the spring. Margaret stated this is fine as long as it is not conflicting with the one in the fall, so the spring is good.

They want to move forward with the tennis shelters. Daryl stated they are funded this year for \$5000. Grace asked if that means we can do one? Daryl stated yes.

Moving forward with Mid-Atlantic event and the date of the pizza party is now July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Capital Improvements – Kevin Stewart

Passed out preliminary drawings. Still waiting for structural engineer to give his costs for the lights, and other interior fixtures. Was hoping to vote for the expenses once he gets this. Carole asked why we need to vote? Margaret stated it comes out of the capital improvement budget that was already approved. It is fine to keep the board informed, however. Hopes to be going out for bid in August with construction beginning in September or October, same

conceptual design with the architect's notes. Hoping to have a capital improvement committee meeting in the next few weeks and the board will be invited. Daryl and Kevin are still looking into financing options. Deciding whether it makes sense to pay the early payoff fee and get a better deal. Kevin plans to be ready to present the final rendition ready for bid by the July meeting. Grace stated they need to plan for lunch league. Diane suggested we try to have all home meets in September. Carole stated that Diane knows a contractor that worked with Great Bridge Country Club who they really had a good experience with and they have a great facility. Kevin will call them.

#### Grants – Diane Yates

Talked to someone recently who downloaded the grant form. Will plan a meeting to review grants in August or September, needs to know if funds roll over. Daryl stated the monies that have been granted for the Little Haven park have not been carried over, the grants never get paid out, even the approved grants have not been requested for payment. Previously talked about setting a deadline so the money can then get redistributed if it is not paid out. Margaret stated the grants should have a year deadline to use the money or it will get put back to be allocated for someone else. Diane asked if the money for the park is still there? Daryl stated that it is and if Diane will let us know the projects are still valid, we can hold the money but the problem has been that the projects have not come through. Carole has a concern about the money getting put back in the general coffers if it is not spent because the community wanted some money given back due to the cell towers. Kevin wondered how hard you have to push to get folks to take the money? Carole suggested we advertise with the local high schools. Daryl stated there is no provision that the money sit there forever but we also don't want to spend the money frivolously. Carole suggested we put it in the newsletter.

#### Treasurer – Daryl Mitchell

Looking at the financial statement, it looks like we are \$30,000 ahead in dues but thinks there has been some miscommunication about some of the funds. From last year, we are ahead in wages, did not have accounting fee until the end of year next year, no activities or parties at this point last year, insurance for board is paid this year and only paid every other year, tennis expenses are up since the clay court expenses are in the first year.

\$284,000 in the bank as of today which is nice. Daryl and Shawn have the current financial information printed if anyone wants to see it.

Margaret asked what kind of budget Grace needs to be looking at for tennis. Daryl stated they have \$6500 budgeted, have spent \$3700, so they have about \$2800 left.

We have purchased Club Sentry and the computer for it, as well as umbrellas, AED came in under budget and the tent came in under as well, so there may be

money to do some other capital improvements. Grace asked if we could buy a big screen TV. Jeanene stated it would make more sense to buy a projector that can be hooked up to a TV it so there is more versatility for its use.

Looking into insurance coverage and will also check to see if the rental TV would be covered.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeanene Wolfe*