

**Swarthmore Swim Club Board  
Meeting Minutes, June 29, 2009**

Present: Allen Ells, Al Federico, Rick Graham, Jim Greer, Doug Hasbrouck, Susan Kelly (Senior member), Gary King, Jessica Kline, John McKinstry, Jacki Miller, Dick Nenno, John Seaman, Jennifer Flemming *ex officio*

Regrets: Lynn Morreale

Absent: David Heinbockel

There was a presentation by Wallover on possible renovations. They had been engaged based on presentations they have made last year. If the board has any questions on this presentation, they should send them to Jackie. Wallover will make another presentation at our July meeting. Toward the end of the season, there will be presentation to the membership about possible renovations.

The meeting came to order at 7:30.

**I. Minutes of May and June Meeting: No minutes to approve.**

**II. Comments from Members:**

- a. Chip Stockman: He said that things are going well at the pool and he sensed strong morale among the membership and the staff.
- b. Susan Wright: Susan expressed concern about the sale of junk food at the pool. She noted that the School District had changed the quality of food, and hoped that the pool might consider more nutritious food. She noted that having junk food at the pool makes it harder for parents who want their own children to keep a healthful diet.
- c. David Smuts: He asked about the possibility of having alcohol at the pool. The issue will come up later in the Quality of Life report.

**III. Managers Report:**

- a. Weather: Jennifer noted that there were early closings due to rain and noted that they are careful not to be too hasty in such closing. This way, staffing costs can be controlled. They close/open according to shifts, so, for example, if they are closed in the morning, they can re-evaluate that decision when the 3 pm shift is to start.
- b. Staff Absences: Employees who miss shifts are sanctioned by being taken out of the schedule until they have a conference with Jennifer.
- c. Lifeguard Alert: A Red Ball Drill will be run to make sure lifeguards are being vigilant in their guarding of the pool.
- d. Snack bar is busy. The management is aware of the range in nutrition. Jennifer noted that the offerings include healthier fruit and granola bars. Parents are using the temptations of junk food as a teachable moment to get children to choose better options and her snack bar staff question students as to what they should be eating.
- e. Raft Night and Dollar Dogs and Sunday Suppers are doing well.

- f. Swim lessons: Parents must pay in order to get on the swim lesson list. This early payment is necessary because absences and unannounced arrivals make it difficult to arrange for instructors.
- g. Red Cross Safety Course: Jennifer wants to offer a Red Cross Safety Class Programs for 10-11 year olds. This is designed to let student under the age of 12 to be at the pool unsupervised. The class will help these young children learn why they need to be responsible, and plants the seeds in their mind about becoming lifeguards in the future. She will advertize this program tomorrow, with the first classes to begin on Monday, July 6. (She may offer the course one or two more times this summer.) It would be a week-long course, and would cost parents \$35. It is a Red Cross curriculum that Jennifer would teach. In addition to the course, kids would also have a sign a code of conduct to be allowed to be at the pool unsupervised. They are expecting at least 12-13 kids. Al Federico gave the following motion:

*Quality of Life recommends that the Board authorize the Manager to develop a Safety Course and Code of Conduct for dependent members 10 and 11 years old which will permit them to attend the pool unaccompanied. The fee for said course, if warranted, will be established by the Manager. Additionally, it is recommended that the Manger and Assistant Managers be given authority to enforce the Code of Conduct and revoke the privilege as appropriate.*

**Motion Passed 11-0.**

IV. **Action Items**: None

V. **Committee Reports**

a. Finance: Rick Graham

The revenue numbers look good, and the expense numbers are up because of maintenance and repair of the pool. Because the membership numbers are up and the payroll expenses are under control, Rick is cautiously optimistic that we will have a balanced budget this year.

b. Membership: John Seaman

The total number of bonds issued and outstanding is 529. The total number of bondholders who have paid this year is 463, and 34 have not paid. (This is in addition to the 19 who had not paid in 2008.) There are 38 senior members who have paid and 1 who has not. We have 41 new members, and there are 9 offers outstanding. If we get 50 new members, that will be the largest increase ever according to Gladys Snively. Bond refunds in May: 9. Total non-resident members are 22.

A question was raised about having single memberships. John noted that if we did this, such a change would have to be in place by September and October. Jessica noted that this issue has come up in many times in the past based on her review of past minutes. Others noted that the Season Guest Pass has been a good compromise, especially since a single membership might wreak havoc with our numbers.

c. Quality of Life: Al Federico

- i. Staff Assistance with Scheduled Events: Al thanked all the Board member volunteers who helped sell food on Fridays and Sundays. He noted that it would be very helpful if one staff person could help with

Friday dollar dogs, Sunday Supper and the Ice Cream social. Since the events seem to be clearing \$200 each, this revenue justifies the added expense of a staff person. He made the following motion:

*Quality of Life recommends that the Board authorize the Manager to schedule one additional Staff member to assist with Planned Events at the direction of the Committee.*

**Motion passed 11-0.**

- ii. Float Silent Auction: Gary told us that many members have expressed interest in having a fund-raiser to help buy more furniture, hammocks, etc. Al noted that we want to be cautious about competing with our overall capital fund-raising, and the fund-raising for the playground. Al made the following motion:

*Quality of Life recommends that that Board authorize the Committee to proceed with the planning and execution of the Float Silent Auction Fund Raiser.*

In the discussion, Doug noted that the competition with other fundraising is fairly minimal, given the large size of our other projects. Gary noted that if we do this, we want to move quickly, before the swim season ends and people leave town. Jackie said that she hoped we might support the playground in this fundraising. Another asked if we could get more lounge chairs. A member of the audience suggested such an event might be open without fee to outsiders, to boost attendance. Jim suggested that if that be the case, we should have brochures to give to such potential members. Given that there was interest in using the funds for hammocks, the playground, lounge chairs, etc. we agreed that we will decide how to spend the money raised at a latter meeting.

**Motion passed 11-0.**

- iii. Board Consideration of Sponsored Events permitting Alcohol:  
Al reported that many have asked if they could bring their own alcohol to things such as the pig roast. This would mean beer and wine for specific board events.

Al made the following motion:

*Quality of Life recommends that the Board authorize the Committee to schedule events that involve members bringing soft alcoholic beverages (beer and wine) for consumption in the Grove.*

Concerns were raised about children being present, and the difficulty in supervision. Others wondered how you would enforce it if someone arrived with hard liquor. Others raised questions about guests arriving. Jennifer noted that other clubs require 4 non-drinking board members be present to supervise. In response to these concerns, the motion was amended to read as follows

*Quality of Life recommends that the Board authorize the Committee to schedule events that involve members bringing soft alcoholic beverages (beer and wine) for consumption in the Grove. These events would be restricted to those over 21, and those present could not swim. It is also contingent on being consistent with our insurance coverage.*

**Motion passed 8-2 with one abstention.**

- d. Operations: Jacki noted that we no longer have a stormwater runoff problem, but the explanation for this is unknown. Some think that we have more grass on the property, and a branch from a downed tree on the PECO property might be blocking the runoff.
- e. Procedural Review: John Seaman reported that the Procedural Review Committee feels it can put the by-law amendments up to a new vote and that we can take this opportunity to cure any ambiguities in the by-law amendments. One of the things that can be clarified is the size of the board, (9 or 13.) The committee will bring the full board a proposal at a later meeting.
- f. Plantings: Susan reported that she is working on a watering schedule.
- g. Publicity: Doug reported that people love the broadcast emails. People also love knowing when the pool is closed. A discussion ensued about discounts for those who join late in the summer.

**VI. Old Business**

Gary reported that the WiFi system will be up and running soon. This will be a secured site. There was a discussion as to whether to charge people or to pay for this service in the general fund.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33.

Respectfully submitted,

John McKinstry  
Secretary, *pro tem*