

KEENE VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 17, 2019

The meeting was held in the KVCC's clubhouse and was called to order at 4:05 PM. George Ludlow acted as Chair and Steve Hopkins acted as Secretary. A quorum was present.

George opened the meeting discussing the purpose of the meeting, namely, to have a dialogue with the membership about the current status of the KVCC and its prospects for the future. He expressed thanks to our outgoing Directors, particularly Larry Shipps who's done an able job as Treasurer for the past 5 years. He asked for a moment of silence in memory of those members who passed away during the last year, namely, Phyllis Buchanan, Cathy Farrell, and Connie Miller.

The Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting were approved as previously circulated. See Exhibit 1.

Nominating Committee. Upon the recommendation of the Committee, the following were elected to the Board for initial three-year terms: Scotty McClelland, Ray Nardelli and Randy Titsworth. And, also on the Committee's recommendation, the following current Board members were elected to second three-year terms: Dan Deighan, Steve Hopkins, Noreen McCarthy, and Tad Zelski.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tennis. Dan Deighan reported that we've had a good season. Mike Bucar's programs continue popular—the addition of “three and me” was a great success, as was the Phyllis Buchanan ladies' doubles tournament. One problem: in order to accommodate tennis last fall, the lines on a couple of courts were still in place when an early, unexpected and heavy snowfall ruined them. The Committee will re-think the length of the late season in order to avoid similar problems in the future but the popularity of late season tennis is such that the Committee will do all it can to extend the season as long as possible.

Hospitality. Mary Wilkerson reported that we've had another good year under the able leadership of Josh Whitney. There have been three primary events (the square dance, the pulled pork dinner and the casserole supper) and five social events. While very successful, this many events overloaded the staff and it's anticipated that, next year, we'll continue with the

three primary events but limit the social events to four so that there'll be no weekend with two events and one weekend with no events. And in order to encourage "grill and chill", the kitchen will be open as late as 9 PM every week night.

Building and Grounds. Randy Titsworth reported that there have been no major problems for B&G. The pool was opened without trouble and the ordinary day-to-day matters have been handled successfully. One proposal the Committee would like to explore with recommendations to the Board is the construction of an equipment shed in back of courts 5 and 6. At present, valuable equipment too often has to be left at least partially exposed to the weather during the winter as well as the summer, and good stewardship might suggest that such a shed would be a good investment.

Treasury and Investments. Larry Shipps reported that the KVCC continues to operate in a generally satisfactory financial condition. See Exhibit 3 for the details of Larry's report.

A question was asked: how do we protect our investments in down markets, noting that there seems to have been disadvantageous selling during the last market crash. The answer was that such major action would be a Board decision but all of our investments are with Vanguard which, we hope, should provide skilled advice during market fluctuations.

Membership. Lucy Gunderson reported that KVCC's membership continues strong. For example, in the past year, there have been more new members than resignations. See Exhibit 4 for the details of Lucy's report.

Nominating Committee. Bear Miller reported that the Board members elected today are well qualified and that his Committee already has several possibilities "in the works" to fill the vacancies expected because of next year's retirements. He concluded that he and his Committee would welcome volunteers and/or recommendations from the membership.

Pool. Sam Ticknor reported that we've had another good year regarding pool usage. Our community outreach has been successful with the Youth Commission using the pool several nights each week. The Health Department found no violations in its annual inspection. Looking ahead, the pool's age and possible resulting deterioration is a constant concern; so far, so good, but we've formed a task force to work with outside experts to analyze the likelihood of the need for major repairs.

Paddle Tennis. Tad Zelski reported a big increase in usage this year, under the leadership of Leslie Shipps, particularly. The heating system needs repairs and the Board will soon be presented with a plan for replacing and upgrading this system. Also, the brush surrounding the court needs to be cut back and the Paddle Committee is working with B&G to see that this is done as needed.

Website/Communications. George Ludlow reported that we continue to use the Wild Apricot system which enables usage ranging from the storage in information (e.g. membership data), to the schedule of events, to the payment of annual dues. We're constantly seeking ways to upgrade to get such features as the ability to "round up" on the payment of dues.

A suggestion: it would be helpful to have the schedule of events also posted in hard copy on the bulletin board. George agreed and said this would be done ASAP.

OTHER DISCUSSION TOPICS AND Q&A

National Register. We've agreed to have AARCH compile the history of our buildings. There are several reasons. Our buildings are old and have varied, fascinating histories; such a record would be valuable per se to educate new and existing members. Second, such a report would be essential if we decide, upon analyzing all the issues, to apply for listing in the National Register. And, finally, such a listing would be invaluable should we make the further decision, upon analyzing all the issues, to pursue Section 501-c-3 tax exempt status for an organization dedicated to preserving some or all of our buildings in order to encourage a new income stream for that purpose.

Question: what's happened to the ATIS proposal to buy some of our real estate. Answer: we haven't received a serious proposal and the idea seems dead.

Suggestion: we need to more clearly identify the entrance and exits on Rte, 73 and, perhaps, get the state (or whomever) to forbid parking so near the exit as to make it virtually impossible to see oncoming traffic when leaving the parking lot. Answer: we'll clarify the exit and entrance signs, and look into what's involved with getting the suggested parking restriction.

The motion was made and unanimously adopted to thank George Ludlow for his outstanding leadership during the past year.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 5:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Stephen A. Hopkins, Secretary