



**Lansing Skating Club
Board of Governors Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2011**

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Nancy Simpson and a quorum was confirmed. The meeting was held at the Michigan Athletic Club in East Lansing.

Board Members Present:

Nancy Simpson, President
Erin Banner, Professional Representative
Lyn Farquhar, Corresponding Secretary
Pennie Moore, Treasurer
Diane Van Aken, Recording Secretary
Brenda Chapman, Member-at-Large

Board Members Absent:

Angela Dale, Vice President
Jody Corbett and Deanna Gast, Members-at-Large

Club Members, Parents, Coaches and Guests Present:

Carrie Banner, Sarah Capizzo, Maureen Dalton, Gina DeWitt, Kathy Prange

The Consent Agenda, previously circulated, was approved as submitted. Items contained in the consent agenda were:

- Minutes of the October 5, 2011 meeting
- Correspondence received/sent – thank-you note from Ashton Miller was received.
- Membership report/applications – applications of Victoria and Nicholas Nunez received and approved; 158 members of LSC currently.
- Recap of motion approved via email – The Board voted and approved a motion to split the cost of hanging the four LSC banners with Suburban Ice East Lansing.

Treasurer's Report Summary

Pennie Moore presented her first Treasurer's Report. She indicated that the Club has total assets of \$104,382.44, which includes the \$67,500 received from USFS for expenses related to the Jr. National Competition. Pennie also indicated that we have one outstanding expense; \$280 ice fees for the Jr. National/Sectionals Exhibition and Halloween Skate. A separate account has been opened with a travel agency, and \$15,000 has been deposited in the account in anticipation of travel expenses for the competition officials.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Testing

The test session for November 9, 2011 was canceled due to difficulties encountered getting judges, also, there were not enough skaters to warrant the expense of conducting the session. There is the possibility that a one-hour test session will be conducted on November 11 for pre-preliminary tests or any other single panel test. Gina will contact coaches regarding the need for this session. A new test Chair has not been identified.

Basic Skills

Nancy reported that Alissa Folger and Samantha Wilson have agreed to be Co-chairs of the Basic Skills Competition. Meghan Carmody will provide them with the information/instruction notebook, and serve as a resource regarding the requirements. Mo Parisian and Maureen Dalton will also assist. Meghan has already invited the vendors, and has discussed the competitors' gift with Alison Kochan. Alissa is prepared to attend the required Basic Skills meetings.

Lyn Farquhar stated that although she had previously indicated she would be willing to chair the competition, and then after re-evaluating her circumstances had to rescind that offer, she would be happy to assist Alissa and Samantha.

Junior National Competition

All Committees are on track. The website is up, and contains useful information for the competitors and the Club. <http://lsc2012juniorchampionships.com> The vendors have been lined up, there is a sponsor for the lanyards, the host hotel has been filled and several additional hotels have been designated as "official overflow hotels." Additionally, 168 people have purchased tickets for the competitors' party to date. The competitors' party will be held at the Kellogg Center on the MSU campus.

A media planning meeting regarding publicity will be held on November 2 with Barb Lezotte.

VolunteerSpot will be up and running within the next several days. All LSC families and friends will be needed to donate time and/or items for hospitality in order to make this a successful event.

If anyone has any questions, they are encouraged to put them in writing to Co-Chairs Gina, Meghan and Mo.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair and/or Co-Chair Vacancies

A Test Chair is still needed, as well as a Chair for next year's Van Camp Competition and the Van Camp Awards Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Van Camp Deadlines

Nancy posed the question about whether, without a Chairperson, we have missed any deadlines relative to the Van Camp competition. Maureen, Gina and Kathy confirmed that there are tasks that could still be done in January, but that is the outside time limit. Gina indicated that the announcement used last year needed to be reworked.

The group decided that a meeting needs to be held in January to have a frank discussion about the direction the competition should take to increase the number of skaters, how to revitalize the competition, or if it is time to discontinue the competition. A cost/benefit analysis will need to be done to determine if the competition is still viable. Nancy indicated that Gina has done the registrations for our competitions for many years, and someone needs to step up and learn that job function. Someone also needs to take on the responsibility for being Chair, and there will need to be a commitment from coaches, skaters and parents if the competition is to continue. It was noted that coaches and skaters are too busy during the competition to be Chair.

The meeting in January will be separate from the January Board meeting. The membership will be advised of the date when it is decided, and encouraged to attend and give their input on this important topic.

Date for Annual Banquet and Membership Meeting

The annual membership meeting must be held prior to May 1st when the Board of Governors/Officers' terms expire. After considering the Spring Ice Show schedule, Governing Council, and the Adult National Championships dates, it was tentatively decided to schedule the Annual Banquet on April 15th.

Banner for Junior Nationals

Nancy reported that a request had been made that the banner earned by the Eastern Great Lakes Regional Juvenile Boys Champion Vanya Mokhov be hung in time for the Jr. Nationals competition. Nancy indicated that although this is a deviation from the Van Camp Awards Committee's established protocol, this is a very unique circumstance not likely to be repeated, where the National Championships would be held in our rink, and one of our skaters qualifying for a banner is competing in the event. She felt that these circumstances warranted an exception to the protocol. She also noted that if hung early, the banner would not be taken down for the Annual Banquet presentation, but the fact that the banner was earned would still be part of the Annual Banquet festivities. After much discussion about the implications of deviating from the protocol, and also the merits of the special circumstances of the request, the Board consensus was to make an exception to the VCAC protocol and hang the banner early. It was also noted that pairs team Devin Pascoe and Sam Parks could also earn a banner when they compete at the upcoming Sectional competition. It was decided that since the same special circumstances would apply, if their parents approve, their banner would also be hung prior to Jr. Nationals.

Competitor's Gifts for National Showcase Competitors

Nancy noted that traditionally, the competitive skating year starts with Regionals. However, with the additional national competitions that have been started, we need to be mindful that there

are other skaters competing at the national level, whose competitions are not in that same traditional competitive year, who need to be recognized. Due to the timing of the National Solo Dance competition, Maeve Pascoe was presented with the same gift as the Regional skaters at the time of the Regionals exhibition. However, other LSC skaters who qualified and competed at the National Showcase competition in August were not given a gift. Upon motion made and seconded, the Board decided to purchase and present scarves to the skaters who competed on behalf of LSC at the National Showcase Competition: Dana Berg, Sally Hecksel, Lynsey Lintemuth, Julie Liu, and Emily Roth. Hannah Lenz and Olivia Wheeler also competed at National Showcase, but as they competed at Regionals, they previously received their scarves.

When a VCAC Chair is identified, and that group meets, the awards protocol will need to be revisited to determine if additional competitions need to be identified, and if amendments should be made. Additionally, coaches of competitive skaters need to assist the Board in making sure that all skaters who may be deserving of an award are identified on a timely basis, as the Board wants to recognize all skaters who compete on behalf of the Club and meet the awards protocol.

National Skating Month Activities

The Club and SIEL will celebrate National Skating Month on January 15, 2012 at 3:30. The rink will provide free public skating. The goal is to promote skating and the Club, especially since this is the 10th anniversary of National Skating Month. There is the possibility that this could be coupled with a charitable event, however, no firm plan is in place at this time. Sarah Capizzo and Jody Corbett previously agreed to bring ideas for recognizing National Skating Month to the Board.

OTHER BUSINESS

Grants are available from USFS to encourage participation in Basic Skills programs. The grants are awarded based on applications for specific needs or projects. Lyn offered to draft the grant application proposal if an idea is identified.

The December 7th meeting of the Board was canceled, and all Board members were encouraged to attend the remaining Junior Nationals meetings, as well as participate fully during the competition.

SUMMARY OF ANNOUNCEMENTS INCLUDED ON AGENDA

LSC and SIEL are featured on page 61 of the October issue of Skating Magazine regarding the August Skate-a-Thon. Hannah Miller is pictured on page 42 in an article about the S.T.A.R.S. program.

2011 – 2012 LSC Event Calendar was attached.

Detroit Metro Council meets Monday, November 7, 7:30 p.m. at Detroit Skating Club. Maureen Dalton will attend the meeting.

Next Board meeting: Wednesday, January 4, 2012, 6:30 p.m., at the Michigan Athletic Club Restaurant.

Meeting Adjourned 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Diane Van Aken
Secretary**