Minutes of the SCRA Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, July 5, 2011

The regular meeting of the SCRA Board was held at the noticed time in the SCRA Meeting Room, and was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Steve Pokorny, who presided at the meeting. Board members present included: David Drover, Bob Kessler, Leslie Fiedler, Steve Pokorny, and David Engstrom.

(1) Tennis Program Report (Andrea): The tennis program has roughly 120 kids. Most team participants are SCRA members. Money-wise, the program is where it should be. The program will likely meet money goals (so long as there is no more rain). The program sometimes turns away non-member kids. A long-term wish-list for the program would include replacing the wall area with several small-scale (kid) courts and a basketball backboard.

ACTIONS ITEM: Ray Purpur will price out the project. Likely cost (with wall removal) is $120,000.

(2) Swim Program Report (Scott): Scott Shea reported the following about the swim program:
- The swimming program is in the fifth week of lessons. The lesson program has been “pretty good.” It’s still dealing with issues relating to online registration. Some people apparently chafe at the amount of time it takes to register. To this point, nearly everyone has paid. Numbers are at 70 swimmers, up from the second week. There were 37 members and 30 non-members. This fluctuates week to week.
- Summer swim team has its third meet tomorrow at Fremont Hills (an away meet). The swim team is currently 136 people, 111 members and 25 non-members (which is the cap imposed by PSA). The 25 non-members are useful because not enough parents are willing to help. Part of the problem was that Laura initially sent out information that asked parents to fill slots (rather than asking them to fill specific slots). Things are likely to get better. Parents are gradually buying in. Many of the team parents are new families to the team. One possibility, as discussed, is to charge parents up front for their slated swim meet volunteer time, to be reimbursed if and when the parent fills a job. This will all be revisited once more time elapses.
- Lane allocation has been good. The most impacted time is 3:30 to 4:30. The committee is looking into ways to alleviate lane congestion further by moving precompetitive to later in the evening, esp. in the summer when not scheduling around school.
- SCRA members have increased in the summer program – 111 and 25. 77 non-members are also part of the year-round team (PALSA?). There are a total of 213 swimmers in swim team programs. 111 members, 102 non-members. In fall, the program will lose more members than non-members.
• Approximately 25 non-members were turned away this summer. If allowed to swim, they would generate $425 times 3, or $1300, times 25. That would raise $30,000. David Drover noted that that’s a mortgage on a new pool.
• There are 34 swimmers who swim elsewhere in the summer (junior and senior group). They’re bigger and take up more of the pool time. 25 non-members and 9 members. Tend to be 11 years and up.
• Who swims on a regular basis? Only 10% swim 5 days a week in the summer program. This 10% group is split evenly among members and non-members.
• Non-members pay an extra $100 per session, or $300 for the year.
• Lesson income: first week gross income was $4500-$5000. Lessons are 50/50 members and non-members.
• There are 6 swimmers in masters.

Curriculum discussion: Scott reported that he ran a Red Cross program for 7 years and does not want to run it again. The Red Cross program is set up for minimal improvement. David Drover pointed out that goal is to please a segment of the membership not taking advantage of current SCRA offerings. Scott pointed out that Red Cross would not be a fiscal plus: kids/families aren’t committed. It’s hard to hire someone when a handful of swimmers show up one week and then none the next. Scott’s basic view is that swim team already provides mix of skill development and fun. Few of the kids are competitive swimmers at all (never more than 19 swimmers at a meet). It would do a disservice to re-brand something that’s already working.

Steve Pokorny suggested re-branding the program as a “developmental” program rather than “pre-competitive.”

It was also suggested that SCRA adopt little programs to promote swimming (e.g., t-shirts that say “I swam 10 miles.” or a way for swimmers to record mileage). Fremont Hills has only five people who do tracking of miles.

Steve informed the Board that the swim team needs to sign a contract for new Fremont Hills space. There’s another bidder. A new 50 meter pool is going into Roble, but won’t be completed until December 2012.

Cubbies? Ray reported that cubbies fall apart if wet. Ray is looking into teak cubbies and will report back.

(3) Facility Update (Steve Robe): Steve made the following report:

• The pool heater went down. The coils were apparently rusting. The company that installed the heater sent new parts and installed them for free. If it goes down again, we’ll have to buy a different model. (Apparently, PH dropped, but not enough to harm the heater.)
• The July 4th party was success. Having CoHo present was a plus. (CoHo will continue 11-2 Mon. thru Thurs.) Head count was roughly 300. CoHo served 400. Only problems were (i) condiment table congestion; (ii) lack of drinks and no ability to get drinks without waiting in full line; and (iii) long lines for kid games.
(Apparently, Laura called Drover’s son at 9:00 p.m. 7/3 in an effort to find volunteers to run games.)
• There’s been talk of doing an outside movie on an upcoming Friday night.

(4) Committee Reports:

Swimming Committee: No committee meeting for swimming.

Tennis Committee: The Committee hasn’t had a meeting for a couple of months. The committee was unable to put together a seniors team, so SCRA and Palo Alto group got together and formed a super-senior team.

Membership Committee: SCRA membership is currently at 450 members. That’s 17 new members since May. Parking has become an issue. It’s unclear how exactly we’re acquiring these new members. Robe reported that letters are being written to new home purchasers. There’s no “individual” membership right now, just a membership. Membership committee will meet sometime in August or September.

Playspace Committee: Engstrom reported on efforts to research playspace standards. Ray noted that David White in Stanford’s Environmental Health and Safety office can certify a play structure and might be someone to work with.

(5) Variance Report: Steve Robe reported that there’s no new variance report since May. Robe further reported that he would work with accounting to offer more detail about particular line items.