

**Russell Mill Swim and Tennis Club**  
**Fall General Membership Meeting**  
**October 17, 2008 7:00 pm**

The following minutes have been approved by the Board of Directors.

1. 2008 Highlights

Jim Clasen discussed projects completed and highlights of 2008, including:

- Installed Well – reduced the cost of water
- Updated Website – improved communications
- Purchased new diving board – improved equipment
- Acquired Tennis stringing machine – member benefit
- Added new BBQ grills – member convenience
- Repaired pool lights – member safety
- Replaced tennis nets – member benefit
- Moved sign and removed tree stumps – improve curb appeal
- Purchased AED – member safety
- Committees – input and involvement of 50+ members
- Swim, Dive, and Tennis Team Results:
  - Swim team finished 3rd
  - Dive team finished 2nd (first place in 3 of 4 events!)
  - Boy's Tennis team A finished 2nd
  - Girl's Tennis team A finished 4th

2. RMST Apparel

Ellie Eckhoff discussed the partnership with EmbroidMe in Chelmsford Center to produce RM-branded apparel. Orders can be placed through November 14<sup>th</sup> to be available for pickup at EmbroidMe by December 5. The link to the online order website can be found on the home page of [www.russellmill.com](http://www.russellmill.com)

3. 2008 Financial Report

Joe Holland presented 2008 financial reports, including:

- Gross Revenue and Expenses were mostly in line with budget presented at Spring Membership Meeting
- Revenue was off approximately 1% largely because of reduced dues and concession sales; the latter attributed to weather causing fewer snack shack hours
- Expenses came in almost exactly as budgeted
- Net income is projected to be approximately \$1800 when final expenses for the year are received and paid

#### 4. Member Survey Results

Mark Taylor discussed the very successful member survey:

- Responses – 59 (over 25% of all members)
- 67.9 % have been members for longer than 2 years
- 85.7 % believed that the communication was good
- 98 % would like to see improvements to the club, 50% of which would agree to higher dues and/or an assessment
- 3.4% (2) had a disappointing experience with the staff
- 30.4% felt that the pool was their favorite part of the club, whereas 37.5% felt it was a tie between the pool and the shaded picnic area
- Suggested improvements: bathrooms, clubhouse, play areas, other activities for the kids, swim lessons, lounge chairs, cleanliness, longer hours

#### 5. Calendar

Jim Clasen reminded members of our last two events:

- October 25<sup>th</sup> Halloween Party
- November 15<sup>th</sup> Fall Cleanup

#### 6. Long Term Capital Projects

Brian Snelson talked about the major improvements being evaluated, mostly the repair of the pool. For many years, there has been a crack in the bottom of the pool that required differing levels of repair each year. The board is investigating all options: continuing small annual patches, re-build of the affected area (approx. 5-8 feet wide), to a complete rebuild of the pool. Various experts are being consulted and bids sought for each option.

#### 7. Membership Votes

The board certified that a quorum was present and proceeded with membership votes for items contained in the meeting announcement:

- a) *Assessment*: the board recognized two-thirds of members present voting in favor of the assessment. The assessment will begin in the 2009 season. As announced in the meeting notice:  
The membership will vote on an annual assessment to be earmarked for a Capital Improvement Fund. The amount of the assessment will be \$25 for single membership units and \$50 for family membership units. The board is seeking these additional funds for repair of the pool and any other facility improvements as required. All funds received under this assessment will be held separately from the operating funds and reported to the membership at both the spring and fall membership meetings. The assessment will automatically renew at the same amount each year until the membership votes to end it.
- b) *Election of Officers*: the board presented the results of voting by ballot for 2009 board members:  
Vice President – Dave Brown  
Clerk – Diane Riley