LLCC Inn Committee Minutes March 11, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. by Rhonda Mayner.

Attending: Sue Bird, Penny Cory, Emily Fleshman, Sharon Hadsall, Rhonda Mayner, Bona McDonald, Bonnie Morrow, Dorothy Powter, Deana Query, Nan Stricklin, , Mary Ann Wagner, Paul Wagner, Marty Williams, Chef Michelle Molina

Excused: Sharon Haworth, Tamra Ingwaldsen, Jeannine Metz, Donna Miller, Sheila Nokes

Guests: Sharon Corrigan, Kurt Snow, Sabra Snow

February 2017 Minutes: Nan noted that Brian Smith's statement should read "would support" instead of "would not". Rhonda noted that she changed the information about public banquets from "the Board voted to stop" to "the Board voted to suspend" as per the Board's request. Sharon Hadsall moved and Deana Query seconded to approve the minutes of the February meeting as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of Financial Reports: Paul noted that quarterly figures will be available soon, and there will be an analysis of this quarter at the Board meeting on March 18. The committee should be able to discuss that report at the April meeting, and should have good numbers to work with going into our most active season. He also reported that the new POS system will be installed in April.

Restaurant Report: The Magpies asked that the committee discuss Chef Michelle's list of needed/desired equipment, and make a recommendation for them. Michelle reported that she has purchased a cooker that can be used for large cuts of meat, such as the upcoming corned beef. Penny noted that the Magpies have already approved purchase of a multi pasta cooker. Michelle stated that new plates are needed at a cost of approximately \$400, as well as 12-24 chargers for \$100. The chargers would be used instead of place mats, which are becoming costly, on Friday and Saturday nights. She would also like a dough proofer, but this is quite expensive. Following discussion, Emily Fleshman moved and Mary Ann Wagner seconded to recommend that the Magpies fund the purchase of the plates and chargers. Motion passed unanimously.

Many committee members expressed concerns over the decline in service and the inconsistency in food quality. Paul noted that attendance and income have been down compared to previous years. Rhonda reported that she and Paul would like to work directly with the servers to teach them the principles of good service and the skills needed to provide it. Michelle should be monitoring the cooks more closely to ensure that every meal prepared meets her standards before being served.

Michelle noted that even though the desserts are "homemade", they have not been selling well. Several people pointed out that the servers never promote them as they should, and suggested that the current fresh desserts be more prominently listed on the menu.

Rhonda noted there have been some concerns over the policy to serve no more than 8 at a table in the lounge. She and Penny volunteered to try some different table arrangements for approximately two weeks each until one can be found that works for both the customers and the servers, and the committee agreed to that plan.

Rhonda reported that she has not had the opportunity to research whether there is an existing policy limiting the number of guests a member may bring to the lounge or restaurant. Discussion showed that the lack of a limit hasn't created any issues, so the committee decided not to make any recommendations at this time.

Valentine's Dinner on Saturday, February 11 brought in over 60 guests. Michelle noted that this was down from previous years. It was suggested that the fact it wasn't actually on Valentine's Day may have been a factor in the attendance. Comments on the food and service were very positive.

St. Patrick's Day is Friday, March 17. Mary Ann reported that there will be games and prizes in the lounge beginning around 4:30, depending on attendance.

Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 15. Emily can always use more volunteers for the event.

Easter Brunch will be Sunday, April 16. Michelle will begin working on the menu.

The Fishing Derby will be Saturday, April 22. Michelle noted that bacon costs have risen dramatically, so the breakfast costs will be higher this year. Rhonda reported that there will be a sign-up sheet at the April meeting for volunteers to work 2-hour shifts form 8:00 am to 2:00 pm taking money, serving food, set up and clean up. There will be 5 to 6 people needed per shift.

The New Year's Eve Dance was discussed. Nan reported that advocates for another dance featuring The True Romans have already assembled a list of 44 people committed to purchasing tickets in advance at \$25 each. Kristi Gray, who has taken the lead for the group, was unable to attend this meeting, but Nan reported that proposals to cut costs included no food, pot luck appetizers, eliminating the free champagne, and purchasing cheaper hats and favors. Marketing plans include selling tickets at every member function, with a special promotion at Limerick Daze. Many members of the committee were still concerned about the profitability of the event, and spoke against repeating a function that has not supported itself for the past two years. Nan reported that the advocacy group has committed to guarantee that all of the costs are met. The committee felt strongly that the group should take on the event separately from the committee. Following discussion, Paul Wagner moved and Penny Cory seconded that use of the Great Hall on New Year's Eve 2017 will be granted rent-free to the designated group of advocates, who will bear all costs of the function, including signing the contract with the band. Tickets may be sold at club events and promoted on club property. Motion passed with one nay and two abstentions.

Café Report: Paul noted that the plans for the layout have been changed yet again, but the café will be open on March 18 only for a tournament. The opening date for the season is yet to be determined. The new manager, Thomas Strom, will start on Monday March 13, and has been drafting a new menu.

Attendance/costs: Rhonda noted that now that the office is generating usable figures, this sub-committee will meet soon.

Minors in lounge: As Barb Betterley was not in attendance, this topic was tabled to the April meeting.

Great Hall Accoustics: Penny apologized but said she had not pursued this any further. She will try to have more information for the committee at the April meeting.

Inn Remodel Plan: Rhonda passed out the attached recommendations from the sub-committee that will be presented at the March 18 Board meeting.

Survey results: Emily passed out a summary of the results from the inn usage survey taken at the Town Meeting in February. She noted that she was trying to get it emailed and mailed out to as many owners as possible. Bonnie volunteered to hand some out at the Easter Egg Hunt. Following discussion, Emily Fleshman moved and Bonnie Morrow seconded that the Board include a single sheet, double sided version of the survey in the next mailed newsletter and the next Communicator. Motion passed unanimously.

Decorating sub-committee: Rhonda reminded the committee that there is a sub-committee in comprised of Penny, Dorothy, Bona, and Sue, which is in charge of all of the décor at the Inn. The committee agreed that the recently donated screen for the doorway into the kitchen needs to be in place every night.

Adjourn: Bonnie Morrow moved and Marty Williams seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Motions to the Board:

Sharon Hadsall moved and Deana Query seconded to approve the minutes of the February meeting as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Emily Fleshman moved and Mary Ann Wagner seconded to recommend that the Magpies fund the purchase the plates and chargers. Motion passed unanimously.

Paul Wagner moved and Penny Cory seconded that use of the Great Hall on New Year's Eve 2017 will be granted rent-free to the designated group of advocates, who will bear all costs of the function, including signing the contract with the band. Tickets may be sold at club events and promoted on club property. Motion passed with one nay and two abstentions.

Emily Fleshman moved and Bonnie Morrow seconded that the Board include a single sheet, double sided version of the survey in the next mailed newsletter and the next Communicator. Motion passed unanimously.

Bonnie Morrow moved and Marty Williams seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Inn Remodel Sub-committee Report March 11, 2017

Members: Rhonda Mayner, Emily Fleshman, Sharon Hadsall, Bonnie Morrow, Bona McDonald, Sheila Nokes

Priority 1 – Walkway to lower main front door of Inn

Repair and clean sidewalk - it is a safety hazard as well as being unattractive.

Priority 2 –Upper deck

Resurface as inexpensively as possible while putting down a quality surface that will stand up to time. At that time, put in some type of deterrent to the birds to minimize if not eliminate the mess they make up there. Sand and paint railings if necessary.

Priority 3 – Restrooms outside bar

Women's – enlarge stalls or combine into just one stall. Install grab bars in stalls. Clean, paint if necessary, new décor. Enlarge entrance door? Men's – clean, paint if necessary. Install grab bar in stall. Enlarge entrance door?

Priority 4 – Entrance to office

Make more welcoming – if the door is going to remain shut all the time, put in a more attractive door, possibly with a window, and make the area at the top of the stairs more inviting.

Priority 5 – Exterior Paint

This is already on the Board's list of things to do as funds allow.

Priority 6 – Lower Patio

Clean and possibly paint the concrete. Install flower boxes and run rope lights along outer railing. Look into winter storage for tables and chairs to protect them from the elements and make them last longer.

Priority 7 – Acoustics in Great Hall

The Inn Committee is researching this.

The rest of the items in Mr. Torkelson's proposal, while attractive, are simply not feasible at this time. As the financial condition of the Association improves, the committee will be happy to revisit the proposal and recommend more intensive, expensive alterations to the facility.

The committee also feels that even if extensive renovations are undertaken, our facility will never command the rates others in the area do, being smaller and without an attached hotel.