

Maple Corner CC Annual Board meeting
Thursday Sept. 13, 2018

Present: Pres. Dirk Van Susteren, Treasurer Steve Sweeney, John Rosenblum, Andrew Nemethy, Heidi Thompson, as, Debbie Clark, JC Myers, Peter Burke, Jamie Moorby, Carolyn Morton, Annmarie John, plus members of the public.

John Rosenblum and JC Myers honored

Retiring treasurer John Rosenbaum was honored with humor and praise for his many years of service on the board. He noted the significant increase in the capital endowment of the MCCC through the years by the decision to invest \$300,000 raised through the Men of Maple Corner calendar with the Vermont Community Foundation. A letter from Calais resident Rod Buck, who serves on the investment committee of the VCF, notes the VCF has consistently met or exceeded its benchmarks and the funds now held and invested by VCF for MCCC tally more than \$530,000.

JC Myers announced that he also would be retiring after two rounds of serving on the board, and received a round of applause for all the work he has done, especially for his help and expertise on the physical structure of the center.

Annual budget highlights and reports

MCCC operations manager Jamie Morby recapped a year of growth in usage for the MCCC. The MCCC board's decision to increase per hour fees for use of the MCCC from \$10 to \$12 for Calais residents and \$20 for non-residents appears to have had no impact on usage, Moorby said. She added that the board's decision to increase the budget for her part-time position to handle rentals and management and attract more usage of the MCCC appears to have paid off.

She also noted that the website now posts minutes from the MCCC meetings. And she brought the gathering up to date on an effort to find and pump the septic tank for the center, a move stymied by the fact records for its location cannot be found. She said it has not been pumped since 2002.

President Dirk Van Susteren noted as well an increase in fund-raising events to support MCCC operations. JC Myers noted that in no small part that was due to the president's efforts to put on hugely successful fundraising dinners. Van Susteren received a round of applause.

JC Myers recapped recent successful efforts to make improvements to the building, including energy weatherization, improved air handling and repairs that have benefited users and heating costs. He advocated for a capital budget plan to address upcoming needs, which include replacing an old bulkhead entrance and in the future, a boiler "that will need to be replaced."

Peter Burke moved, and Carolyn Morton seconded, approval of the 2018-19 budget as adopted by the board, which totals \$34,675, a slight increase from 2018's \$33,075. Annual income from VCF for the fiscal year in the budget is \$23,750 and the additional income comes from fundraising and rental usage fees, as well as a portion of \$14,493 set aside as building committee reserve for repairs and major maintenance.

Some discussion followed. Marialisa Calta asked some questions on how MCCC money is handled and checks are disbursed. Bev Heise suggested the board look at trying to improve acoustics and lower noise levels with big crowds for the patrons who are older and have compromised hearing. President Van Susteren agreed that was a good idea to investigate.

Following discussion the budget was unanimously adopted.

Recording Secretary Andrew Nemethy