

# Minutes: TCUC Operating Committee Meeting

**Date: 4/14/2019**

**12:00 at the Koehler's house**

## Those Attending:

Mary Koehler, President  
Ryan Wood, Treasurer  
Art Kotz, Secretary  
Steve Koehler, Equipment Manager  
Connie Cotter, Skills Coach  
Mike Schatz, Member at Large  
Greta Koehler, Junior Officer/Instagram  
Joe Schatz, Junior Officer  
Andrew Kotz, Junior Officer/Webmaster  
Derek Skroch, Junior Officer  
Scott Skroch, visitor

## Those absent:

Lisa Wurtinger, Vice-president  
Dani Chevalier, Freestyle Team Director  
Neala Chevalier, Assistant Freestyle Team Director  
Julie Alt, Member-at-Large  
Katy Runyan, Junior Officer

## Activity since last meeting:

- 1) New Junior Officers (Katy and Derek) approved and invited to OC meeting

## Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Mary

## Treasurer's Report

Current balance \$14,840.25  
Costume expenses have not been covered yet.  
Some practice gym time for NAUCC in April and summer will come.

## Membership Report

With online system it is easier to get reports on membership changes.  
195 members, ~43 families

## Parade discussion

**Roberts parade:** We have done this for a number of years. The Roberts club has been growing and is no longer a TCUC group (they started as a TCUC club, but they are no longer TCUC). They make up the largest piece of attendance at that parade. For a year or two we donated T-shirts to them (out of our fee, which is generally less than our normal fee). We don't plan to do that this year. Since this is their home town parade, we have been moving toward handing this parade off to them.

**Parade shirts:** We are in good inventory shape (stock of all sizes available).

**Parade organization:**

- Lisa passed on several excellent ideas
  - She wants to reach out to newer members to manage parades
  - Get Jr Officers assigned to attendance in advance to give them a specific task.
  - This is a way to pitch in – not a “chore”.
- Themes:
  - NE Mpls, Tues June 18
  - Oakdale, Th June 20 – ride a giraffe
  - Savage, Sat June 22
  - Roseville, Mon June 24 – Conny’s Creamery
  - Col Hghts, Fri **June 28** – reunion + Strawberries/ice cream (this date was mistakenly reported as June 21 in previous meetings and on our tentative calendar).
  - Richfield, July 4 – RWB decorations
  - Lakeville, Sat July 13 – game or raffle for gift card of \$25 to Target, DQ or TCUC Merchandise
  - New Brighton, Th Aug 8
  - Vadnais, Sun Aug 18
  - St. Fair, Aug 23, Walker appreciation day
  - St. Helenas, Sept 14
- Need to order signs for the wagon. Mike will order them.

Mary moved that we approve spending up to \$100 for signs for the wagon. Seconded by Ryan. Unanimously approved.

## Practices

Last Woodbury class of Spring 2019 will be on April 25 (Makeup from snow day on April 11)

Mary will continue with Tues classes in the fall (we pay hourly)

Woodbury class will be on Wednesdays in the fall (Mid Sept start) (Community Ed, so we get gym free in exchange for teaching)

Fridays – either at CTK or St. Matts as available. FT performs for CTK annually. Joel is willing to continue this.

## Events

- Thawsome Fest – 44 attendees – it was thawsome!
- Public show

- June 26, Jefferson HS (5-9pm reserved)
- Tasks/volunteers – show manager, publicist, **hockey**, music
  - Mike show manager, hockey, music (with Ryan for Hockey demo)
- Performances – ind, pairs, small group, FT, hockey demo, Flatland? (Scott/Will/etc?)
- Hockey after show?
- National Unicycle Day/Week
  - Natl Ride a Uni day – Sunday, May 19 – Lake Harriet – Connie will run this and do press release.
  - Natl Unicycle week – May 19-25 – with only 1 Bloomington practice left after this week, we don't plan to do a "try it" day during this week. We may do one in Sept when practices resume instead.
- Mondo 2020
  - Jugglers are interested in more interactions with unicyclists (games, workshops, etc.)
  - Getting special guest info earlier is better for their planning cycle
  - Family discounts – TCUC could consider this to encourage more attendees. A family discount does not have value to most of the jugglers, but could attract more unicyclists with non-riding family to come and potentially participate in helping. Mike will work out a system to bring to officers for approval before proposing it to Mondo.
- We were invited to a WSP bike rodeo. Prior experience in Eagan was that insurance may not allow people to try in a public setting (Eagan). These are difficult to do – not main stream for FT, not enough experience to train riders. We suggested proposing a fee of \$700 to offset time and effort required to do this.
- We have been approached by Bloomington Heritage Days parade to join the parade and do a show (this is a week after St. Helenas)

## USA Scholarship

- In previous years, we had donated \$700-1500, but stopped in 2013. In 2018 we donated a \$500 match of funds raised (including our donation, they raised \$2200).
- 3 people received \$750 each last year. Some years \$1000. Usually 1<sup>st</sup> year, sometimes 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Once a grad student received an award.
- TCUC members (and in general larger clubs) have a perceived disadvantage in applying because our members are active in local club and not necessarily nationally. There is a defined selection rubric that is better defined than in the past, but not much apparent enthusiasm in USA for fund raising and sustaining this program.
- We will revisit this in June when we can see what is being planned for this year better. Several of us feel that this is a good program, but we want to see that there is national support for it.

## Website Update

- Steve has rewritten and cleaned up about half the content on our website.

## Jr Officers

- They are an excellent resource and are underutilized. Helping at classes, learning leadership skills, parade organization, etc. are all options. How to better engage them will be a topic at future meetings.
- Andrew will start training Derek on Webmaster tasks soon so that the handoff in late summer goes smoothly. Whether the Facebook work is separated as a different task is TBD (Andrew started doing Facebook work and then migrated to webmaster later, so they have been separate tasks).

## Other info

- A big thank you to Dani for leading the FT team for 2 years and to Neala for her 1 year as assistant FT leader. Their time and effort is appreciated! (and we hope to see them around in the future when possible).
- With Dani and Neala stepping down from that role, Connie would like to be FT team leader in the fall (starting after Nationals). To keep continuity in the team, we formalized that plan now. Mary so moved, Art seconded and the vote was unanimous.
  - This will allow us to go with a plan that Connie is forming to start practices earlier in the year that are open to lower levels until about mid Sept. (level 3 and higher) when standard FT practices would start up.
  - There are some fall shows lined up already that this early schedule will help with next season.
- Unicycle sale update – thanks Mike! All unis selected were sold or donated generating income to the club of \$170.
- We loaned a Unicycle to a dance company with a \$100 deposit. We will return the deposit when the uni is returned.
- We were asked by the MN Rec Trail Users Assoc to write a letter to the Minneapolis Park Board in support of a grant to improve trails. Again, Thanks Mike for writing this!!

The meeting was adjourned.