

Hop Brook Tennis Club Board Meeting
May 15th, 2023

The meeting of the Hop Brook Tennis Club Board was called to order by Ted Almy at 7:05 p.m. via zoom.

Present: Ted Almy, Tracy Tietje, Todd Raymond, Marc Philo, Jennifer Larwood, and Charlie McCormick

Absent: Tom Duffy, Althea Schwartz

I. Minutes

- The minutes to the January 22nd, 2023 meeting were approved as presented. An informal meeting was held on April 11th, 2023 and no minutes were taken.

II. Financial Report

- Todd Raymond presented a financial update to the Board supported by interim financial statements as of 5/14/23. Todd stated there is currently a small negative accounts receivable balance due to a few overpayments. There are approximately 22-23 members yet to pay, however Todd stated 10-11 of these members have responded that checks are in the mail. The balances expected from these outstanding memberships total approximately \$14,000. Todd will be back on May 20th and will be checking the P.O. Box. The \$80 ‘special assessment’ noted on the profit and loss statement is for a member’s girlfriend.
- Todd spoke on the success of both the Steak Dinner and Big Paddle, both events were significantly more profitable than 2022.
- Todd spoke on club expenses which are down, possibly due to winter weather. The cost of propane has also come down drastically.
- Todd will be reconciling the Vanguard account upon his return and will then run an estimate of cash on hand (less paddle expenses). There are minimal club expenses until fall. The largest upcoming expense would be tennis court preparation of approximately \$4,000.
- If the Board would like to offer an electronic annual dues payment option Marc Philo is willing to have members send their respective dues to him via Venmo.

III. Membership

- The Board recently approved the memberships of: Brown, Jacobson, and Verbeke. Hal & Paige Willison were formally approved at the meeting. Hal will be a single sport paddle player.
- Board members mentioned the following applications that were expected: Heather Goetz, Peter McDonald, Jason, Carey, and Larry.

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IV. Pickle Ball

- Tape will be placed on paddle court 2 this week in lieu of putting down the pickle ball overlay surface. This will allow both courts to continue to be used for paddle while still allowing members to play pickle ball. Chalk is discussed to be put down on court 1.
- A member has expressed interest in possibly buying the pickle ball overlay surface from the club. The Board has agreed to give the overlay surface for free.

V. Paddle Court Repair

- Marc Philo and Pat Sullivan met with Rob Coster the owner of Court Pro. Court Pro installs new paddle courts and services existing paddle courts. The fencing, beams, lights for the paddle courts are all in good condition. However, the floors, sub-floors, and skirting are all in poor condition. Per Rob's expertise Court 2 will need to be replaced within the next year while Court 1 would probably last 3-4 years. Court 1 is bowing facing the parking lot and Court 2 has rot issues.
 - Rob has given a quote of approximately \$150,000 to refurbish both courts. It would be 15-20% cheaper to complete the job if both courts are refurbished simultaneously. The fencing, beams, and lights would be able to be reused, drastically saving costs.
 - The court costs are expected to be eligible to qualify for a rebate through APTA which would be 20-30% of the total cost if Hop Brook became an APTA club with members paying the APTA annual membership fee.
 - Included in the bid price are guardian heating systems which would only need to be turned on at the storm of the storm and turned off at the end of the storm. No future snow removal from members would need to be done.
 - If we added a \$10,000 contingency line item to the project budget the total cost would be \$160,000.
 - Rob Coster would be able to complete the job this fall in September/October before the start of the new paddle season
 - The club would need to make a final decision by Mid-June at the latest in order to lock in our spot on Rob's schedule. This means fundraising would need to begin ASAP.
- After Marc's presentation a lengthy discussion was had on the best solution both pertaining to fundraising and timeframe. Board members discussed the feasibility of the project, the importance of Rob's 15-20% discount if the Club does both projects at once, the remaining useful life of each court, using excess funds from the club operating budget, and how to present the fundraising effort to membership. It was decided the best route of action for fundraising would be to start with a select group of members that may be willing to contribute significant amounts towards the efforts. If there are a handful of members willing to donate a large significant amount the remaining cost could be raised through smaller donations made by the majority of membership.

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- Ted and Marc will be identifying members who may be willing to make significant donations and will report back at our next meeting.

VI. Other Business/Open Discussion

- Regarding on-going website maintenance the Board approved using Keith Becker's services and converting the website at a onetime cost of \$399 with an ongoing cost of \$39/month for general hosting and maintenance. Keith's company will take care of any general updates, uploads, and ongoing maintenance. Club members will still have the ability to make court reservations.

The next meeting has been scheduled for Monday, June 5th at 7:00 pm via zoom.

Adjournment by Ted Almy: 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Charlie McCormick