

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Norwich Racquet club was held on January 8, 2020 at the Norwich Congregational Church.

Those present: David Barlow, Judy Barwood, Scott Brohinsky, Bruce Genereaux, Sugar Genereaux, Dan Gottlieb, Jeff Marshall, Jim Petrillo

Excused: Jeanne Floeckher

Jim Petrillo, president opened the meeting at 5:45

The minutes of the November 23, 2019 meeting were approved.

Elections: Since the present officers are serving a second year of their two-year terms no elections were held.

Financial Report:

Bruce Genereaux, treasurer, reported that 2019 finances were consistent with the previous year. He noted that there were no capital expenses, less seasonal propane was used, guest fees and paddle ball income were reduced.

It was noted that a reminder be sent to the membership concerning the guest fees and balls.

After discussion, a motion was made by Dan Gottlieb and seconded by Jeff Marshall that the membership initial assessment and yearly dues be revised as follows:

Individual: \$200 for initial assessment and \$300 for yearly dues

Family: \$300 for initial assessment and \$500 for yearly dues

Students: No initial assessment and \$175 for yearly dues

After discussion, the motion carried.

Suggestions were made to be included in Bruce's letter to the membership when sending out the annual dues notice in April specifically emphasizing the club's intent to maintain its physical and financial integrity.

Marketing:

Scott Brohinsky reported that new photographs and format updates have been made to the website. He asked the board to review the site for navigating the pages and downloads. Mark Perkins, the website manager, has been involved with making the changes.

In addition, Scott will circulate by email the proposed rack card. The poster will be similar. He asks that the board respond with edits and comments.

Norwich Racquet Club Award:

The club has been given an award by a marketing company as having the Best of Norwich Award in Tennis Courts. The Board decided that the cost to purchase a plaque from this organization does not offer marketing value to the club. They advised the president to regret the request to receive a plaque and any press acknowledgement.

Paddle Tennis:

The de-icing problem has been addressed. Improvements which seem to be working include the purchase of new circulating fans placed under the courts, bringing the electrical wiring up to code and purchasing a tarp to be placed on the icing areas of the court which assists in melting when the heaters are running.

The purchase of a larger blower to remove light snow was discussed as well as the purchase of an additional battery for the current one. Dan will investigate and report back to the board.

The board asked that someone write up instructions on the use of the large blower as well as the use of the hut phone. Dan volunteered to do both.

Hanover March Intensive:

David Barlow asked the board to support this year's effort in the March Intensive. Hanover High students will participate by daily playing paddle in the morning and tennis at another facility in the afternoon. David will notify the membership during the time the courts will be used for the program.

It was noted that the current contract playing schedule can be found on line but should also be posted on the hut bulletin board.

Player Discount

Dan suggested that NRC consider offering a discount to interested new club members if they are members of BlueCross/Blue Shield. Dan will check discounts offered by other groups and report back to the board. It was noted that this is free advertising. Board members commented that the discount be offered on the initial assessment fee but not on the yearly dues.

It was noted that Dartmouth also offers discounts for employee benefits.

Club Roadside Sign:

As requested at the annual meeting, the club sign located at the Route 5 needs to be made more visible. A committee of David Barlow, Scott Brohinsky and Sugar Genereaux was formed to research options of replacing or improving it and providing adequate lighting for it.

Respectively submitted,

Cadence Genereaux, Secretary