Norwich Racquet Club Board Minutes

September 19, 2016

Norwich Historical Society

**Board Attendees:** David Barlow, Bruce Genereaux, Sugar Genereaux, Anne Janeway, Jim Petrillo, Ted Thompson, Absent: Andrew Pachner, Dan Gottlieb, Shelley Gilbert

**Sugar Genereaux -** Opened the meeting

**Approval of Minutes**: May 15, 2016 – Approved

**Meeting Dates:** The Board discussed the option of having preset bi- monthly BOD meetings scheduled for the upcoming year. Thursday evenings were decided as the best night.

**Actions**: Sugar Genereaux to check dates for the 2 week of each of the following months Dec, Feb , April , June, Aug/Sept.

**Financial Report:** Bruce Genereaux provided the Board with substantial updates on the budget. Currently we are expected to have roughly $7,000.00 in profit barring any significant club expenditure needs. There are no pressing matters at this juncture for capital expenditures. Some concerns noted with gradual loss in members and aging of our membership for long term implications. We continue to have some redemption in stocks but this has currently been offset with new members

**Actions:**

Bruce Genereaux. will continue to develop a spreadsheet on member age to look at trends over the past 5 years and project needs moving forward.

**Membership Request**

The Board discussed a membership request by Ted Thompson to consider a 1-year trial membership for a group of 4 new players to paddle. The Board discussed allowing the group to forgo the initiation fee for the first year and pay annual dues. They would not be allowed to book contract time but would have regular access to the club reservation system for weekly booking.

**Actions:** Ted Thompson to discuss offer with the group and report back to the board.

**Tennis Current Maintenance**

The Board discussed general court needs thru the end of the year, No replacement for Alfredo Jurado has been identified at this juncture. It is expected that the watering system will need to be shut off likely by OCT 1st to avoid frost and freezing. The court will remain open, with nets up until October 15th. Court closing needs likely to be handled by board and volunteers in mid-October.

**Actions:**

Bruce Genereaux will contact Clement Irrigation and coordinate shut off of water. David Barlow will address roller machine and contact Bob Lawnmower services to have repaired and refurbished thru the winter.

Sunday Oct 16th - was decided as a Club clean-up day. David will send notice for volunteers to help with court closings plan is 12- 2 Sunday.

David will contact John Trautlien to see if he would consider taking on the morning tennis raking and court rolling responsibilities thru the end of September.

The Ball Machine will need to be housed in the storage shed for the winter. Bruce Genereaux to contact the landscaping company for brush work to be coordinated close to the end of October for leaves etc and to help clean up prior to Green Mountain Open (GMO) paddle tournament.

**Paddle Court**

The Board discussed continued work on heaters with Court Pro. Previously this year fans were ordered and Court Pro has promised they will be installed prior to GMO this year. They will also look at screen tightening needs as part of general court maintenance for fall season. Court Pro was provided with Dead Rivers contact information and they will coordinate any propane needs prior to work completion with them.

**Actions:** David will continue to coordinate timing of Court Pro arrival and inform the board of the scheduled work date.

**Backboard**

The Board discussed the possibility of having a backboard at the courts for tennis. Sugar presented some costs which would likely run around $1200.00 thru Jim Montagne. The Pro and Cons were debated at the meeting. No decision was made since it was felt better to have a full board present for further opinions. Also there was some discussion of polling the membership regarding desire to have a back board.

Pros: Provide practice for single members, warm up area prior to play. Member benefit

Cons: Interruption/annoyance to normal play, impact on court surfaces, costs versus benefit, possible scheduling issues.

Actions: The Board will consider further discussion at the next board meeting. Sugar will ask about a reduction in costs.

**Annual Meeting**

The Board is planning on hosting the Annual Meeting at the X Club in October. At this meeting we will be voting on By-Law changes, providing club information to members with committee reports, hold elections for new board members and provide the membership the opportunity to gather and socialize.

**Actions:**

Sugar will contact Joanne Wise about reserving the X Club (available dates) and needs for annual meeting refreshments. David will send By-Laws and board election materials to all members in early October to provide a two week for window proxies to be returned.

David will send a message to membership to seek additional board of director candidates for election

**Paddle Courts**

Phone: The Board discussed the need to create a better awareness to members on the new phone number in the hut. There was some discussion on whether there is a message on the phone directing individuals on how to contact the club as needed if seeking club information.

**Actions**:

The Board will have the phone number posted on the website. Sugar will mention phone in her club letter

**Contract Time:**

David has sent out contract time requests to all members for the upcoming paddle season. Deadline for responses are set for Sept 30th. Contract times will run from Oct 15th - Jan 15th

**Open House:**

The Board discussed continued attempts to hold open house events thru the year. There was discussion for greater frequency as an option to gathering new interest in the club.

**Actions:**

Sugar to contact Rob Parker on potential dates for a Sunday Open House for Nov/Dec

**Green Mountain Open**

David discussed current status of the GMO - All applications have been sent to previous participants and is posted on the APTA site. Men’s Draw has filled completely with 16 teams already signed up to play. The Women’s and Mixed tournaments still have openings. There will be a dinner planned with pre – payment required this year.

**Actions**:

David will meet with Michelle Dougherty at Quechee and provide f/u to the Board.

David will coordinate with Sugar and others to fine tune volunteer needs closer to Mid-October once the draws are filled and set.

**Entrance Sign**

Sugar Genereaux presented ideas on additional Lighting of the club sign on Rte. 5. It was determined that we would need to work with the neighboring Family Place agency to get power brought to the sign if so desired. Foggs Hardware owns the land but the club has right of way along this portion of the parking lot. There was no objection from Foggs board with regard to adding additional lighting; however there may be some restriction on lighting by the town or neighbors across the road. There is question as to whether the placement of the sign is optimal, even with lighting. The Board also discussed potential of increased or better solar options than we currently are using versus larger expenditure on lighting options.

**Actions:**

Board members are encourage to drive past the signage both day and night from both directions to get a feel of sign placement and lighting needs. Sugar will connect with Dan Gottlieb to inquire about additional solar options and expense

Minutes submitted by,

David Barlow NRC Secretary