

Jefferson City Pickleball Club Executive Board Meeting
March 24, 2021, 5-7pm
Missouri State Troopers Association-1729 E Elm

Present: Casey Parnell, Kevin Haslag, Sue Kerrigan, Brian Douglas, Tom Kirchner

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Officer Reports

President:

- Decided not to move forward with renting space at Special Olympics due to cost
- Recruited volunteers for Special Olympics clinic on March 27th. SOMO doubled the number of participants and Casey will develop some drills to run. Volunteers will hold drills in the morning and then after lunch the participants will play games.
- To do: schedule next Membership Committee Meeting, schedule next Communication Committee meeting, schedule KaSandra's spring clinic, put chalk in LU courts box, work with Karen to get balls and t-shirts to new members, make newbie night info and tracking forms, post updates and reminders about all upcoming events on Facebook page, send info about events to Missy, support all ongoing activities
- Windscreen at the LU courts was blown off due to weather. JC Parks needs to go through insurance to replace this. Missy said it is in the works.
- Casey talk to a lawyer about establishing federal 501c3 status. To do this we may need to revise our bylaws to include a board of directors besides our executive board members. This will be an ongoing discussion with the attorney on what we should do. No official fee was charged for this consultation, but to complete the process we may be charged up to \$500 to get this ready and then filing fees. Shawn McCall is a club member that is also an attorney and helped set up this meeting and will be available to help as well.

Vice President:

- Storefront updates-changed remaining backordered items from safety orange to orange and hope they will be in next week so remaining embroidery can be finished. We've ordered additional t-shirts (5 small, 10 medium, 10 large) to have enough on hand for additional new members who are joining at this time.
- Activity Committee:
 - Needs to meet to discuss possible ideas for future events: Watermelon Round Robin; Katy Trail Bike Ride; Club Olympics (cornhole, pickleball skill contest, etc.).
 - Skill Level Play – a suggested method of open play with a challenge court was adopted. A rotation was defined and a flyer was created and will be displayed at the LU tennis courts.
 - Leagues – registration for leagues is ongoing. Spots are filling up quickly. Numbers are looking good and players were reminded to sign up before it's too late.
 - Boss of the Brine – registration is open, 3.5 is full and 6 spots remain for 3.0.
 - Tournaments – will plan for event(s) in the fall
 - Clinics – need to contact KaSandra Gerhke and set up future clinic(s).

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- Newbie Nights – Set to run 4 weeks at both LU courts (Thurs. 5 – 7 pm) and St. Stanislaus courts (Wed. 5:15 – 7 pm). Participants (newbies and instructors) who attend at least 3 of the 8 sessions will be registered for a free membership, one each.
- Drilling Times – set up for Saturday mornings at 9 am at the LU courts.
- COMO Play – An event is being planned with Columbia where we can have a social and play pickleball and share ideas on permanent court development. This will tie in with the work that the facilities committee has been doing.
- Will put club directory on member's only page. Also will update court calendars. When this is ready to go live a member's only password will be sent to all active members.

Treasurer:

- Budget report: Deposits of \$90 for 2 new memberships and 1 renewal; \$10 for sale of club t-shirt; -\$160.34 from PayPal from Fall Boss of the Brine. Debits of -\$32.17 for GoDaddy renewal; -\$104.99 for Franklin Pickleballs (special pricing \$1 each); -\$14.99 reoccurring monthly Zoom charge; -\$29.99 whistles; -\$360 reservation fee for LU courts to hold Boss of the Brine & Ladder Leagues; -\$7.72 Staples for copies; -\$134 yearly PO Box rental (hasn't cleared bank yet). Checking balance is \$2,087.57 and Savings balance (permanent court fund) is \$3,015.35.
- To do: review insurance options, file club tax forms – Brian is still working on this.

Secretary:

- Total membership: Currently lost 2 members to a move out of the area (Alan Sims & Chris Lock), Picked up 5 new members so we now stand at 111.
- New members in past month: New members are Mike Beck, Alex Earls, Drew Earls, Jill Mackey, Susan Selway and Kent Waters.
- Another couple sent their forms and were going to join but then questioned about paying again in July. Told them of the benefits they'd receive (balls, t-shirts, discount on 2 spring events) but they decided to hold off and join in July instead. We won't initiate pro-rated memberships.
- Annual membership goal: Newbie Nights will begin in April and we are encouraging members to bring friends with hope they will learn this sport and then join our club. Also advertising this on our website and Facebook page. We'd like to maintain our current members and gain new members through clinics, word of mouth, recruiting youth from our school systems and community events.
- Members continue to send headshot pictures and updates for the member directory. After these are entered I send the updated directory with the current date so members can dispose of older copies and keep the newest version. I am unsure if I should remove members from the directory that have moved from the area. Technically they are still paid members of the club. I did remove them from the email contact list as they requested. I will not remove them from the directory through the rest of the fiscal year they have paid for.
- Some new members have indicated they'd be willing to serve on a committee. Sue will contact the and place them as needed.

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New business

- Tom – updates on BBQ fundraisers:
 - Open dates available at Schulte’s for BBQ fundraisers: July 3; July 10; July 31; Sept. 4. Other dates may open up if some of the other groups decide they can’t make it. Oct./Nov. dates are wide open. We can commit to as many dates as we’d like. Cold weather months are good for Ham ‘N Beans or Chili. Tom needs to let Scott at Schulte’s know our choices ASAP. Tom will post dates we’d like to host fundraisers on the club Facebook page and ask to recruit workers. We will try to see tickets ahead of time to boost sales.
- Review member benefits list and revise for the next fiscal year after getting a quorum vote. Sue will email these proposed changes to the active board and members-at-large for their votes.
- Formed an ad-hoc nominations committee consisting of the executive board. These people should try to recruit candidates. An email will go out to the general membership during the second week of April to ask for nominations.
- The election of officers will be an online election held the last week of April. Voting window will be April 26-30, Sue’s husband will be retiring in December and they will be moving out of state so Sue will not run for office again. Casey may have a change in her work status so she will not run for office again as well. We really need some nominations to keep the board functioning. Sue will need all nominations by April 24 to set up the voting site. All officers will refrain from electioneering but should encourage everyone to cast their ballot. All votes will be anonymous and only one ballot can be cast per unique member email address.
- Review Committee List duties and revise as needed. Table to next meeting.
- Sue added option to opt out of receiving 3 free balls and free t-shirt on member registration and renewal forms. This will take place for 21-22 fiscal year. These fees would then be applied to the permanent courts fund. An amount of at least \$10 for the shirt and \$5 for the balls will be assigned.
- Community Event Night – this will be an event where members will be asked to have community members join us to promote our goal of permanent courts and gain support and donors. Our committee met and had a guest attended by phone, Jim Burker (sic) from Festus. Jim has helped work with many communities around Missouri to get permanent courts built. He provided the committee with some really great ideas. He also runs tournaments and is coming to Columbia around mid-April to run a tournament and has agreed to meet with Casey and committee members at Washington Park since it seems to be the best potential option for court conversion in town. He can tell a lot by just viewing the surface condition and telling us what our options may be. The committee has put together a 30 page proposal outlining everything we hope to get in a permanent pickleball facility. He has already commented that it is one of the best proposals he’s ever seen. A big thank you goes to the facilities committee for all their hard work. Kevin attended a JC Parks Community Advisory meeting and told them about the proposal and gave them updates on our club. JC Parks members said they have been aware of the increased PB activity at the LU courts. Casey and Kevin also met with Columbia’s Show-Me Pickleball Club president and some members about how they’ve been able to get courts

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built in their community. They haven't done anything as intense as us, but were basically able to just go to their parks dept. and ask for courts and they were able to get them built. This is still an ongoing process and they continue to add more courts in Columbia. A presentation will be made to the State Recreation Association regarding the need for pickleball courts. Info and presentation materials from this will be made available to us afterwards. Revisions will be made to our proposal after all input is gathered. Jim believes we have a good vision of what we want and now need to gain support from the community. After our Community Event we would schedule a meeting with Missy and Aaron from JC Parks to figure out where we go next. If they are planning to use Washington Park for future pickleball expansion do we need to give them a revised proposal to develop usage of that space in the meantime until they can start from scratch and rebuild the courts. Jim said the parks dept. in Festus area was willing to give the management of those courts to his club. They didn't own the land but got to manage upkeep of the courts. If we continue to grow club membership and get more people out playing PB we will very soon run out of available court space. The engineering group that is working with St. Martins will be in town in mid-May and said we can get a cost estimate from them on redoing the courts. COMO estimates it cost \$35,00 per court.

- Committee reports
 - Activities – see VP report
 - Communications – still working on a newsletter to post on the website as we gather info to share with members
 - Membership/Marketing – work with Communications to develop a newsletter to keep members informed and engaged. This will be published as often as enough info is gathered to warrant posting. Determine if additional memberships should be developed (i.e. Family/Household consisting of 2 adults and 2 children in same household; Student – high school or college age). What should the cost for these be? Distribute handbook digitally and update directory as needed. Have handbook added to website with directory accessed in Members Only area. This area will be password protected and Kevin will look into whether we can track # of visitors/hits to gauge usage. Offer option to opt-out of t-shirt and 3 balls with funds that would have been used for this transferred to the permanent court account. Wrap up storefront and discontinue this for the near future. It is a lot of work and we aren't getting timely delivery of items ordered. Continue to hold newbie nights as a marketing tool to gain more community interest and then possible new club members. Hold a Club Pride event where club attire could be worn with photo ops for marketing purposes. Keep a resources area on the club website with links to pickleball resources. List open play times on club website. Allow members to submit personal items related to pickleball in an area called Share Your Stories. These will have to be screened before being posted on the website.
 - Facilities/Equipment/Supplies: Courts in St. Martins – Brian and Kurt went to the St. Martins Parish Council meeting and reached out to them to place pickleball courts on the existing 2 tennis courts that belong to the Parish. The meeting went well and the Council unanimously voted to allow us to line 4 pickleball courts. Kurt has reached out to USPBA for a grant for 4 nets and we will approach St.

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Martins Knights of Columbus for remaining funds needed to paint the courts and apply the lines. One of the Council members graciously said his company would resurface the courts as well. He will try to get the bidding process started as soon as possible. During that time we will put down lines and try to get the ball rolling with establishing play time there with the same expectations we had for the development of courts at St. Stanislaus in Wardsville. Once Brian knows how much we might need to donate to accomplish court establishment the board will need to vote on amount of funds we might donate. Parrish Council and community groups will have to fund the majority of the expenses. We might also hold a one time event at St. Martins to raise funds.

- Brian is hoping to get a donor to give us a healthy sum of money for additional courts if we can get some land to build these on. Maybe from the city, JC Parks, St. Joseph's School (lower parking lot for courts). Casey's concern is that we may dilute our player population in town if we help build in surrounding areas and we won't reach the pressure point that JC Parks will have to develop permanent PB courts in JC. Still a lot of discussion to be had on this.
- Karen told the board of a cleanup event that MODOT is holding and wanted to know if the board might want to ask members to join in and volunteer for this. Casey can't organize club members for this but encourages anyone who can be there to sign up.

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned. The next executive board meeting is scheduled for April 28th at 5pm, at The MO State Troopers Association Bldg., 1729 E. Elm St., Jefferson City, MO

Respectfully submitted: Sue Kerrigan, Secretary

Attachment:

Member Benefits List for revision