

Minutes of Our Court Board Meeting December 17, 2019

5-6:15 PM

Present	Not present
Mike Haxton, President	Judith Jackson
Rick Cecchetti, Treasurer	Lisa Durstin
Susan Edwards, Secretary	Rob Johnstone
Vicki Beggs.	Darvi Rosenberg
Mike Anderson	

The minutes from the November 12,2019 board meeting were approved.

Rick Cecchetti gave a finance report. The club was able to pay off early a loan taken out to buy the court sweeping machine. Local taxes have been paid. The club finances are stable with a small surplus.

Susan Edwards gave a tennis committee report. The Pickleball/tennis social feedback was very positive and we plan to have another one early in 2020. The first open doubles was well received. It was a snowy evening and one person did not show. The new plan is to allow 8 to sign up for play on both courts. A tennis committee organizer will also attend. There will be a wait list and members will be strongly encouraged to cancel by noon that Monday if they cannot attend. Wait list people will be automatically e mailed but must then actively sign up. The organizer will check to make sure there are adequate number of payers signed up. Tennis committee member volunteers will play if needed.

Mike Haxton reported on membership. 13 members have left the club due to moving or not playing any longer. Currently we have a net loss of 7 equity members and a net gain of 3 associate members and 6 new equity members. 2 members have frozen their membership for the year. We discussed a member who paid dues but got injured soon after. The option available to this member per the Bylaws are to freeze this year's membership and the paid dues will be applied to next year. The Bylaws do not allow refunds part way through a year. If someone freezes their membership for a year they must pay guest fees if they play during the frozen year.

Under the bylaws section 7 Financial Obligations: fees, dues, charges and assessments of members shall be payable at such time as the board may determine. Failure to pay any balance of dues, assessments or other obligations to the club on or before 90 days after the due date will be cause for suspension of membership. A delinquent membership will revert back to the club if the dues remain unpaid for 6 months. The board discussed and approved a new dues payment policy. Bills for dues are sent out October 1 of each year. Payment is expected before Oct 31. If dues are not paid by November 1 the membership is delinquent. That member will not have access to the reservation system and will be charged a guest fee to play at Our Court. If dues remain unpaid after December 31 the delinquent member may not play at Our Court until fees are paid. A delinquent membership will revert back to the club if the dues remain unpaid for 6 months. A member can only sell a membership if the dues have been paid. Otherwise the membership becomes the property of the club.

The junior player policy was discussed. Currently age 12-18 junior members pay \$125 a year if a parent is an equity member. A member had requested sponsoring a junior member who was not his child. The board discussed this and unanimously approved it. The sponsoring

adult must always be at the court with the junior member and be an equity member. This membership always starts October 1. If a junior (or adult new equity member) joins part way through the year, the fee is prorated for the amount of time remaining in the fiscal year.

CCBA now has pickleball 2 nights a week. Hartford Recreation Department considered not using Our Court for another session this winter because our fee is higher than CCBA. Hartford Recreation did sign on for another 6 weeks at the current price of \$75 per 2 hours session. Norwich decided not to buy time due to options at Tracy Hall that were cheaper. The board decided not to lower our rate as of now. Pickle ball options will be discussed at the tennis committee and brought to the board next meeting.

Upper Valley Aquatics center runs summer sports day camps. One of the leaders is an Our Court member and would like to teach tennis. Parents have also request this. Mike Haxton looked at court usage during the summer of 2019 and only one day was 11:30 booked during July and August. The board approved unanimously selling courts to UVAC June and August 2020 for 1 ½ hour a day Monday-Fridays. Most likely this will be 11:30-1 PM slot. Adult supervision will be 1 adult to 5 children. The fee is \$25/court/1 ½ hours. This is the rate schools are charged.

Some minor changes were made in policies such as 7 day reservation for equity members. The changes were approved and the policies on the web site will reflect the changes.

The board received another letter from the lawyer representing someone interested in buying the club. Darvi Rosenberg checked with the state of Vermont and the board can refuse the offer without consulting the general membership. The offer was well below market value. The lawyer will be told we are not interested in selling the club.

Susan Edwards, secretary