

# *Hop Brook Tennis Club 2024 Annual Meeting*

## *November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

The meeting of the Hop Brook Tennis Club Board was called to order by Rich Halbert at 6:38 p.m. at the Simsbury Public Library

**Present & Absent:** See Addendum with Voting Results

### **I. Introduction/Agenda**

- Rich Halbert began the meeting by reviewing the agenda page of the 2024 annual meeting slideshow presentation.
- Rich Halbert introduced the 2025 Hop Brook board members with their respective roles. Rich also recognized the board members leaving the board. Ted Almy was given a standing ovation for his dedication and time as President and Board member of Hop Brook.
  - Ted Almy spoke of his time becoming a member (sponsored by Bart Tablante) and the friendship and camaraderie the club has brought to both his and Maura's life.
- Rich then introduced the committee chairs for 2025.

### **II. Annual Meeting Presentation**

- Rich Halbert followed the agenda discussing: Property Donation, Membership Recognition, 2024 Capital Plan Review, Membership Review, Capital Reserves, Updated Rules, and the Board and Dues Vote.
  - The board and dues vote consisted of annual dues for a full member of \$350 and an associate member of \$100.
  - The board vote presented the officers (voted yearly), along with Althea Schwartz being voted in for a new 3-year term as a board member.
- Marc Philo presented an update on the APTA Grant submission, informing membership the club was approved for a \$20,000 APTA Grant. The APTA provides grants to clubs that perform capital improvements and Hop Brook was approved for \$20,000.
- Todd Raymond presented the Hop Brook Financial Review. Todd presented the year over year net income, statement of cash flows, and projected cash flow for 2024-2026.
  - Todd mentioned the grant funds were not included in his projected cash flow given the recent APTA grant news.
- Marc Philo discussed a proposed guest policy for Hop Brook. Marc provided background on a contingent of non-members who have used the club facilities over the years that are members at other local clubs. Marc's proposal detailed a guest policy only available to members of eligible local clubs for the use of Hop Brook. These members would not have a vote, would not be able to book courts, and must be with a member to play. The policy would allow a single sport guest of \$250/year and a dual sport guest for \$400/year.
- There was then a Q & A session Prior to the Vote.

### **III. Questions/Comments**

- Lucy Eyre asked how the new heaters and Wi-Fi controls will work.

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- Marc Philo answered that Rich Halbert and a select few others will have an application on their phone that can be used to control the heaters. The effectiveness of the heaters will not be fully known until the first snow storm.
- Pat Sullivan commented that in 2004 the club was majority tennis players. Over the last 20 years the club now has a majority of paddle players. Pat wanted to voice to membership the importance of paddle and pickle ball moving forward.
- John Sala asked if a prospective member can join as an associate member.
  - Rich Halbert answered no, a new member would need to join as a full member.
- Lucy Eyre asked if members need to become APTA members given the APTA grant Hop Brook received.
  - Marc Philo answered no, the APTA no longer requires clubs to have all members registered with the APTA. Marc also mentioned a large contingent of members are already APTA members.
- Bill Cordner asked if the financial review was available to be emailed to membership.
  - Rich Halbert noted the financial review was in the annual presentation emailed to membership and is also posted on the club website.
- John Sala asked if there was a plan for the use of APTA grant funds
  - Rich Halbert answered that the club's goal is to pay down the Hop Brook loan as quickly as possible.
- John Sala asked if there were any loan conditions or covenants regarding use of funds.
  - Charlie McCormick answered that a Bank representative had come and inspected work completed. The inspections along with invoices provided supported the loans principal disbursements.
- Bill Cordner asked if the projection of cash flows account for any membership level changes.
  - Todd Raymond answered no, the projections assume no change to current membership levels
- John Sala asked if there are currently couples that are both associates.
  - Todd Raymond answered yes, there are a few couples that dropped their membership back to now two associates.
  - Rich Halbert asked the attendees to inform him of any associates using the club inappropriately.
- John Sala asked if there is a number in mind for how many guests will begin using Marc's proposed guest policy.
  - Marc Philo answered that he expects 8-10 people to use the policy.

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- Bill Corder asked when the proposed guest policy will go into effect.
  - Marc Philo answered the guest policy will go into effect at the end of November. Rich Halbert will be sending out an email detailing the proposed policy.
  
- Jean Streifler asked who will collect the guest policy funds.
  - Rich Halbert answered the funds will be collected through our normal process, starting with an application being submitted and approved by the board.
  
- John Sala asked if the club has thought about sign-in sheets to monitor guest play.
  - Rich Halbert and others noted that they were against implementing sign-in sheets.
  
- Lucy Eyre asked how often the men's league and interclub matches are played at the club.
  - Marc Philo answered men's league and interclub matches generally take place Tuesday nights and/or Saturday mornings.
  
- Lucy Eyre asked membership to continue to promote the club through word of mouth to bring more prospective member interest.

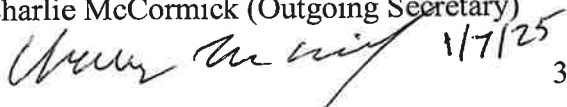
**IV. Vote**

- FY2024 Annual Dues:
  - Full Member - \$350
  - Associate Member -\$100
  
- Officers (voted on yearly) for FY2024:
  - Rich Halbert – President
  - Marc Philo – Vice President
  - Carl Sgamboti – Secretary
  - Todd Raymond – Treasurer
  
- Governors (3 Year Term):
  - Althea Schwartz (2018) has volunteered for another term
  
- After all the questions/comments from club members, Rich Halbert asked everyone to cast their vote. Votes were collected and counted by the proxy committee.
  
- After a brief period of casting & collecting votes, Rich announced that the 2025 budget had Passed and Board Officers and Board of Governors were approved. Rich stated he would be sending out the complete results.

Adjournment by Rich Halbert: 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Charlie McCormick (Outgoing Secretary)

 1/7/25