

HOP BROOK TENNIS CLUB, INC.
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
May 16, 2021
Via Internet Video Conference

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Ted Almy, President.

Present: Ted Almy
Jim Peters
Mark Howland
Charlie McCormick
Tracy Tietje
Althea Schwartz

Regrets: Tom Duffy
Todd Raymond

MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

- The minutes from the 4/25/2021 meeting were approved as reported.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

- The Board noted the good news of the recent surge in membership applications. The Board also noted the need to complete the onboarding process in an attentive manner to see all new applicants complete the process.
- Mark reported that he has drafted a uniform application form to simplify the process and for use in the new website.
- Mark also reported an interested tennis player who is also an accomplished musician and would be willing to entertain the membership in exchange for a reduction in the application costs. The Board discussed and declined to enter into this type of arrangement.
- Mark summarized the other current prospects for membership.
- One is unlikely for health reasons; another is deferred due to injury.
- Four other couples appear likely to apply, and one more couple is less likely.

BOCCE COURT

- The framing is complete, and John Bahre has spread a finer layer of gravel atop the rough layer.
- John Bahre also accomplished the bit of grading work at the corner of the clubhouse near the paddle courts to make it easier to drive the roller through that point.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

- The new seat for the tennis court roller has arrived and been installed. Reports are that it is a great improvement. As there is just one bolt holding it to the support, it can spin. Drilling to install a second bolt is problematic. Ted recommended industrial adhesive as a first attempt to solve the problem.
- Mark replaced failed light bulbs throughout the club. Most of the replacements are LED, with very low energy consumption and cost. Mark also noted that the lights that would be triggered by motion sensors never seem to turn off. Finally, he is looking into resetting the pairing for the ceiling fan remotes to see if they can be revived.
- It was noted that the microwave oven in the paddle hut is not working, which is okay because it is only big enough to heat up a paddle ball anyway. The Board agreed to purchase a new and larger microwave.
- The broken water pipe at the site of the old bubbler has been repaired. A member had suggested installing a new bubbler. The Board declined to proceed, as it was noted that when a bubbler was in place, it was little used.

SOCIAL EVENTS

- We have hosts for all but a few Sunday tennis brunches.
- The Board discussed the upcoming Italian Dinner and Bocce event. The clear sense of the Board is to not limit the attendance as it is the first dinner since 2019 and also that new members ought not to be closed out. The Board prefers to arrange for additional tables, chairs and tents as needed.
- The Board again revisited the idea to hold Friday night all-sport and bar-be-cue events. June 11 was proposed as the kick-off Friday. An announcement needs to be sent to the membership, with a hosting sign-up. The main role of the host is to arrive early and start the bar-be-cue fire.

PADDLE TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL

- John Halpern is interested in continuing play on Saturday mornings through the summer. He will assemble a list of other interested members and schedule paddle and pickleball games if there is enough interest.
- The Board affirmed that all members have unlimited access to bocce and pickleball. If pickleball becomes a more central activity leading to a major investment to build pickleball courts, the Board will reconsider this decision.

CLUB WEBSITE

- Tracy reported significant progress.
- The Board is unsure of the current annual hosting cost, but it is likely near \$250. New costs are not expected to be very different.
- Tracy has looked at several reservation systems; some of these have small annual costs.
- The website will include user-friendly application forms.
- The website will post the current club directory and the minutes of the last few Board meetings in the Members-Only area.
- The Board discussed having a demonstration of the website. Tracy noted that Board members can individually review the new website and provide comments.

NEXT MEETING

- The next meeting of the Board will take place on Sunday, June 6 2021, at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Howland
Secretary