

# Annual Membership Meeting Minutes – 7/30/2021

Board Attendees: Steve Chaney, Al Pfister, John Costa, Laura Metallo, Mark McNown, Steve Taub  
Tina Heffner was out of town. An additional 38 members attended.

Meeting started at approximately 1:15 PM and adjourned at 3:15 PM

Mark McNown donated a new Selkirk paddle and some additional Selkirk items for a door prize drawing.  
Laura handed out tickets to attendees.

## Welcome and Miscellaneous Announcements

Steve Chaney welcomed everyone reminding all who had nametags to put them on to help our new members get to know one another. Anyone who had not received a nametag was invited to see John Costa and he would make one.

Steve announced the results of our board election saying Al Pfister and John Costa were reelected and welcomed Steve Taub as a new member. Steve thanked Gordon Holmes for his service filling in for Bob Eggleston who retired in July 2020.

Steve also thanked Gary Snider, acknowledging his service as a board member and his work in conducting clinics over the years. Gary and his wife Alexis will be moving to Arizona this fall.

He also reminded everyone that 7/30 was the last day to order T-Shirts. To date we had sold 98 shirts and would take orders after the meeting for anyone who had not yet ordered.

## Membership Update

Steve announced the board made the decision to increase annual dues from \$10 to \$20. Our expenses for the past year have been low due to limited play as a result of Covid-19. We are no longer purchasing tape for the indoor courts but continue to purchase balls and other equipment. We also recognize the potential that we will likely have new expenses associated with the new outdoor courts at Yamaguchi Park.

John Costa reported that we have 279 registered members. There have been a number of people who have not been playing due to precautions related Covid-19 but want to continue as members. We have 132 members who have paid their dues for the 2021/2022 year. John will reach out to those who have not yet renewed their membership with a “we miss you” communication encouraging them to reengage.

## Treasurers Report

### Bank Balances

Checking:	\$ 8,741
PayPal:	\$ 250
Savings:	\$82,228

### Court Construction Fund Status

Savings:	\$82,228
Pledges:	\$11,450
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$93,678</b>

## Income statement 2020-2021 YTD

7/1/2020 through 6/30/2021

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Membership Dues	\$1,760.00	Supplies	
Building Fund		Indoor balls	\$121.99
General Donations	\$52,340.00	Outdoor balls	\$150.10
Fly High	\$3,360.00	Other Equipment	\$157.39
Mont 1200	<u>\$3,050.00</u>	Court Repair/Expense	\$94.43
TOTAL Building Fund	\$58,750.00	Office Supplies	\$97.64
Operating Expense Donations	\$251.00	Miscellaneous	\$0.00
Other Fund Raising		TOTAL Supplies	\$621.55
Tournament	\$0.00	Shirt Expense	\$15.00
Shirts Sales	\$240.00	Administration	\$10.00
Amazon Smiles	<u>\$133.98</u>	Miscellaneous	\$120.65
Total Other Fund Raising	\$373.98	Tournament	\$0.00
Interest on Bank Account	\$13.67	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$767.20</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$61,148.65</b>		
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$60,381.45</b>		

### A Look at the Last 5 Years

Steve reflected on the journey the club has made over the past 5 years as we've grown from roughly 40 members to 279 making us the largest pickleball club in SW Colorado.

- We currently have access to 3 indoor courts and 4 outdoor courts in the Town as well as 2 courts at the PLPOA Rec Center.
- The indoor courts at the Community Center now have permanent lines eliminating the need to use tape.
- We've created a Google Group to share club related information among members.
- We've added a Facebook page.
- We have a website where members have access to board meeting minutes, can check for updates on court availability, can view a number of great training videos, can check out photos from some of our events, can pay dues, make donations or pay for purchases, and access member email addresses through a secure login.
- We've held a number of successful fund-raising events including our first tournament.
- We have worked hard to build a positive relationship with the Parks and Rec Committee, Tourism Board and Town Council to convince them of the economic and recreational benefits pickleball brings to our community.

The cumulative result of our growth in membership, fund-raising and community involvement has allowed us to gain the support of the Town for the construction of permanent outdoor courts. What was a dream four years ago is now about to become a reality.

## **Status of the New Outdoor Courts**

Steve went on to provide some history and status for the construction of the new courts. Our first challenge was identifying a location that could accommodate 8 courts. The County no longer had the option of using land at Cloman and the Town did not have any property. We approached PLPOA to see if courts could be built by the clubhouse off Vista but after several meetings it was clear this would not be an option.

With the announcement of the plans to develop South Yamaguchi, we were hopefully optimistic that pickleball courts could be part of the overall design. The original estimate for the construction of 8 courts was \$300,000. Our plan was to raise \$50,000 and ask the Town and County to contribute \$50,000 each and get the balance of the money from a GOCO grant.

The Town hired THK to conduct a market study, develop some preliminary designs and present alternatives to the general public to seek the community input on their priorities for the best use of the property. The board took an active role in lobbying THK and the Town and our members provided broad support by submitting their input in an online survey developed by the Town. As a result, we were able to convince THK and the Town that demand for pickleball was much stronger than THK had originally projected and more courts should be a top priority.

As the master plan for the development of South Yamaguchi was being finalized the Director of Parks and Recreation, Darren Lewis, suggested moving the proposed courts to an area in Yamaguchi Park near the skate park. This was an area where he struggled to grow grass for soccer fields and he felt it was better suited for the courts. He would then be able to build new soccer fields in South Yamaguchi where the turf would be properly prepared. Darren also acknowledged that the South Yamaguchi project would take years to complete and felt pickleball courts could be built much sooner if they were located by the skate park.

The cost to develop South Yamaguchi will be in the millions. The Town recognized they would need a significant contribution from GOCO and did not want to apply for a grant just for the pickleball courts. That meant that the cost for the courts would need to be split between the Town, the County and the Club.

This meant that in addition to our original goal of \$50,000 we would need to raise another \$50,000 for a total of \$100,000. Our prayers were answered with a generous donation of \$50,000 from Paul and Donna Herchman. We could now tell the Town we would have the funds to be able to meet our share of the cost.

Recognizing that construction costs had increased as a result of factors related to Covid-19 the Town requested an updated cost estimate. The new estimate to build 8 courts had increased to \$400,000. The Town's support for the project was further demonstrated by their proposal that the Club, the Town and the County each contribute \$100,000 and the Tourism Board contribute the remaining \$100,000. The Town will work with the Club to approach the County asking for their contribution and support of the proposal.

Our dream for permanent dedicated courts is approaching reality. If all continues as planned court construction could start as early as next Spring.

### **Steve and Laurie Taub Match**

Steve Taub made an announcement that he and Laurie wanted to help the club raise the remaining amount needed to reach \$100,000. They offered to match all donations made in the month of August up to a total of \$5,000. Steve and Laurie were greeted with a resounding round of applause for their generosity and Laura Metallo and Cheryl Flynn kicked things off with a \$250 donation.

### **19<sup>th</sup> Hole**

Al Pfister was recognized for his efforts in getting the Pagosa Pickleball Club selected as one of four local non-profits who would receive a grant from the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado. Proceeds from the sale of tickets for the four 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Concert Series concerts will be divided equally between the four non-profits. The grant has averaged \$1,000.

### **Rodger Bennett**

Big thank you to Rodger Bennett, club member and world recognized classical guitarist. He will be performing at The Springs Resort on Thursday August 5<sup>th</sup> and has offered to donate all tips he receives to the club to go toward the construction of the new courts.

### **4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade**

A big thanks to Deborah Schulte and Annie Jacobi for their efforts on organizing our participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.

### **Questions From Members**

**What will happen to the old courts on 8<sup>th</sup> Street?** They will remain however it is expected that over time the ice rink will make improvements that may take over the space used for the current courts.

**Will the nets on the new courts be permanent?** Yes.

**Will there be a shade structure?** The current estimate does not include a shade structure. This will be one of the improvements that will require additional funds.

**What is happening with the push for tennis courts?** The tennis group received a commitment from Davie Pitcher (Wolf Creek Ski) for \$100,000 to go toward tennis courts. They are currently working with Wyndham to reach an agreement to fund the resurfacing of the existing courts in exchange for the right to use the courts for their members.

**What about using the money in our checking account for the new courts?** We expect there will be additional expenses related to the new courts for things like a shade structure or wind screens. The Town may not have the budget to cover these and these funds could be made available to cover these or other costs.

**Will we have a tournament next year?** At this time there is still too much uncertainty related to Covid-19 limitations and precautions. We will definitely hold a tournament after the completion of the new outdoor courts.

**Can we have more social gatherings?** Again, due to precautions related to Covid-019 we are not planning any club organized social gatherings. This would be up to individuals to organize.

### **Door Prizes**

Thanks to Mark and Cindy McNown for their donation of prizes for our drawing. Congratulations to Lester Jones on holding the ticket for the new Selkirk paddle