

Spokane Racquet Club Board Meeting

March 14, 2018

Present: Jerry Neff, Bob Kimbrough, Stephanie Butler, Jeff Owens, Pat Sowder, Clint Harames, Joe Palozzolo, Frank Hattamer, Gary Gainer (speaker phone)

Unable to attend: Craig Juhre

Guests: Marty Munson, Mike Ross, Greg Wellens

The meeting called to order by Jerry Neff at 6:00 pm. Jerry verified that a quorum was present.

Minutes: It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the February 28 meeting as corrected. The information about penalty for non-payment of bills was incorrect and changed to correctly reflect our bylaws.

Member input: Two emails, one from an anonymous member and one from a former board member, concerning personnel matters were read. They will be discussed in executive session.

Executive Session: The board adjourned to executive session to discuss personnel matters at 6:15 pm. The closed session ended at 7:35 pm. Clint Harames accepted the assignment to have a discussion with the manager to request a new proposal describing the Manager's job functions and compensation that the board can then deliberate over.

Financial Report: The financial report was sent by email and accepted by the Board. Income from dues and lessons exceeded expectations for the first two months.

Old Business: The following old business was discussed.

- The member survey will be in the works and was tabled until next month.
- The facilities projects list needs to be updated and prioritized.
- Stephanie Butler, chairman of the long range planning committee, is organizing the first meeting with the following members who have expressed interest in this project: Jeff Owens, Todd Erickson, Sianna Meyers, Greg Wellens, Mike Ross, Carl Bruscoe. Several dates for their first meeting were mentioned.

New Business: The policy concerning court reservations was discussed. The current policy allows a member to reserve one court time per day and the person reserving court needs to be playing on that court. The manager can make an exception to this rule. Clint explained that the reservation system is set up based on the rules given to him by Jason several years ago. Clint will send a list of these rules to the board for evaluation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Pat Sowder, Secretary

Grounds and Development Committee: This committee has accepted the responsibility of developing a long range plan for the club with Stephanie Butler as chairman. Todd Erickson, Jeff Owens, and Sianna Mayes have volunteered to help develop a long range plan.

Finance Committee: The financial report was sent by email and was accepted by the Board. There was a brief discussion about the previous debt incurred by the club prior to 2008 and the methods used to eliminate this debt.

Junior Development: Kay briefly summarized the problems with the junior summer camp last summer which resulted in a net profit of only \$18 per camper for the club. This summer we have an opportunity to partner with the USTA who needs a south hill location for their summer youth camps. The USTA would take full responsibility for publicizing and running these camps and will pay us \$24.75 per camper. We would still run our own Quick Start and Junior High Clinics during the summer. It was moved by Clint Harames, seconded by Joe Palozzolo, and passed unanimously to allow the USTA to run their summer youth camps at SRC.

Marketing Committee: There is no report from this committee but it was noted that our partnership with USTA summer camps will increase our visibility in the community.

Management Report—Nominating Committee: The following board members will be retiring from the Board in May: Jerry Neff, Clint Harames, Bob Kimbrough and Craig Juhre. Stephanie Butler is completing her second three year term but is willing to serve a third term. According to our by-laws the size of the board can change ranging from five to eleven members. Several names were suggested as possible new board members and everyone is encouraged to suggest other people who would be willing to serve. Kay will verify their eligibility and the board, serving as the nominating committee, will have a final slate of candidates for approval at the general membership meeting in May.

Tournament Report: Joe Palozzolo, Tennis Competition Coordinator, reported that USTA matches are currently being played so he will not schedule a tournament until May when he hopes to schedule a members only clay court tournament. It was noted that the clay courts need to be prepared for spring play. Craig Juhre will be responsible for ordering the clay. We will need to purchase an entire container of clay which should last for seven years.

Operations Report: Kay Menzie reported on the following operational issues:

Ball Machine: Frem Nielson is organizing a fundraising drive to purchase new ball machine. The desired machine will cost \$4000 and will be an appropriate machine for our needs. It was moved Jerry Neff, seconded by Clint Harames, and approved unanimously to appropriate up to \$1600 for the purchase of this machine.

Downstairs Office Usage: We have a room downstairs (Kay's former office) that is currently not being used. One possible usage would be to rent this space to a massage therapist. Our members would benefit from having these services on site as well as having the rent as a new source of income from the club. Several members have volunteer to help prepare the room for this use and Stephanie will help negotiate the rental agreement. It was moved by Jeff Neff, seconded by Frank Hattamer, and approved unanimously the rental of this space with a release of liability.

Late Payers: Kay asked the board for direction in dealing with members who are behind in their dues. She can handle most situations working with the member herself but needs help with some difficult situations. It was decided that the club's stated procedure should be followed in these cases: Kay will contact the member after thirty days; the treasurer will contact the member after sixty days; club membership will be revoked ninety days.

Alternative Business Model: Craig Juhre explained his three options of alternate business models for the club which were emailed to the Board. Discussion was held on the value of SRC membership compared to the other tennis clubs in town, the need for additional funding for major infrastructure costs including the repair and/or replacement of the outdoor courts, and the various approaches to obtaining the necessary fund ranging from raising dues or soliciting members for donations to adopting a new business model to cut expenses as presented in Craig's three alternative models. This discussion highlighted the importance of developing a long range plan for the club and will be addressed by the long range planning committee. It was decided this committee should develop a short on-line survey asking for input how to fund the outdoor court project—one-time contribution, voluntary dues increase or raise dues for everyone.

New Business: The following items were addressed.

No Shows: It was decided that the penalty for a "no show" would be \$12 after two times. The difficulty of calling to cancel within 24 hours was discussed.

USTA Team Policy: Clint Harames explained that current inconsistency of independent USTA teams being assigned to SRC by the USTA with our by-law requiring teams with less than 70% SRC members to obtain approval from the Board. It was moved by Clint Harames, seconded by Bob Kimbrough, and passed unanimously to remove the by-law requiring Board approval for teams with non-SRC members.

The Board adjourned to executive session at 8:40 and adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Pat Sowder
Secretary

"Discussions/Decisions/Actions conducted via e-mail (3/28/2018 -to- 4/2/2018)"

A request was submitted to the board via e-mail. Context as follows:

Two members will be getting married and would like to have their ceremony at SRC. They would like to reserve the grass area west of the outdoor courts and have access to the upper clubhouse for bathrooms. All members of SRC are invited (estimated guest list of 100 people). Tennis will be played at the reception. In case of poor weather, they will move the ceremony to indoor court #1 (with carpet rolled out to protect the surface), and the tennis will be played on courts 2,3,4.

Deliberation and Outcome:

- With the exception of one response, every other board member response was in support of allowing the wedding to be held, providing the member's accounts were in good standing. Otherwise, they will need to rent the club just as any other non-member would.
- The board's decision was communicated to the members on April 2nd.

