Voyager Pickleball Board Minutes

# March16, 2019

## Opening

The regular meeting of the Voyager Pickleball Board Minutes was called to order at 10:00 AM on March16, 2019 by President Gary Meldrum.

## Present

Gary Meldrum (President), Dave Hart (Court Maintenance), Tammie Brown (Treasurer), Larry Rauh (Structured Play), Nancy Heebsh (Player Improvement), Sandy Black (Tournament Coordinator), Dale Secord (Communications Coordinator & Secretary)

Richard Hyde (Court Usage) absent

Also present were our two social coordinators: Charlene Quandt and Peggy Douglas

**Attendance**

## There were 10 club members present

## Opening Comments

Gary prefaced the beginning of the meeting with comments that there would be a Welcome Back function at the beginning of next year’s season. Gary said that we had purchased two propane patio heaters for the Voyager patio area. They are presently in the pickleball shed and will be gifted to the Voyager RV resort for all residents to use. Gary requested the purchase of a propane fire pit for the patio. Gary made a motion to authorize up to $500 and Sandy Black seconded the motion. The Board approved the purchase of the propane fire pit. The Voyager staff has agreed to furnish the heaters and fire pit with propane.

New Board members:

Bryan Rickman has indicated that he would like to be the Vice President for the Club. Gary requested that Bryan be appointed for the remainder of this season and to be selected as the Vice President for next two year term. Bryan was approved by acclamation.

Gary stated that the following persons have volunteered to Board positions:

John Mosher – Structured Play Coordinator

Jon Lingwall – Secretary and Communication Coordinator

Judy Cameron – Treasurer

They were approved by acclamation.

The following Board positions are still open and volunteers are needed:

Tournament Coordinator

Court Maintenance

Court Usage

Gary Meldrum stated he had communications from Geoffry Cambell, the Voyager General Manager that the tennis net between Courts 11/12 and Court 13/14 will be replaced this summer with a permanent fence.

Geoffry also said there was no way we would get another tennis court converted to pickleball courts but that he was requesting funding to replace the unused and unsafe volley ball court with a pickleball court. There was discussion about the wisdom of Voyager resurfacing the volley ball court to one pickleball court or requesting the conversion of a tennis court to four pickleball courts. Gary and Dave Hart plan to hold further discussions with Geoffry.

Gary and Dave will also request shade be installed near courts 11-14. The roof of the pickleball shed is leaking and they will ask for help from Voyager maintenance staff.

Dan Galvin requested an advance of $300 for summer repairs. Bryan made a motion and it was seconded by Tammy Brown to authorize $300. The motion was approved.

**Agenda - Changes to the Agenda**

Nancy Heebsh suggested that the handles of the club paddles used for the Beginner lessons be rewrapped if needed. The cost should be less than $100 so no motion was needed.

Dale Secord suggested Board approval of a Good Conduct Pledge that Board members be asked to sign. The Good Conduct Pledge was patterned on the USAPA pledge that all Ambassadors are required to sign. The club has had several instances this year where inappropriate behavior has occurred. Dale stated that the Board members should be held to a higher standard of conduct. There was no support from the Board to approve the Good Conduct Pledge.

Dale Secord requested the Board consider support for a smoke alarm battery replacement program for the residents of Voyager. Dale pointed out that in the view of many residents of Voyager the image of the Pickleball Club is not that good and the suggested program would help to improve our image. In discussions with the Voyager Activity office staff and the General Manager they indicated support for such a program. At the last Board meeting questions were raised about potential liability. Dale said he met with Geoffry Campbell that he would check with corporate about issues of liability. There was no support from the Board to approve moving ahead on a smoke alarm battery replacement program.

Dale Secord requested the Board approve purchase of the Gold version of the Sign Up Genius program. The Board approved the purchase with the understanding that we not use the feature to have players pay for clinics using pay pal. Players would need to continue to pay for participating in the clinics at the time of the clinic. The motion to approve was by Nancy Heebsh and seconded by Sandy Black.

Dale Secord presented a paper outlining several options for new pickleball courts for the future. There are at least 5 options we could present to Geoffry Cambell. At this time Geoffry has included in his budget to resurface the deteriorated volley ball court into one pickleball court. We could request tennis court #2 be converted to four new pickleball courts; convert one or both the tennis court adjacent to the golf driving range into four or eight pickleball courts; multi-stripe tennis court #2 into either two or four pickleball courts for multiple uses by tennis and pickleball players; or multi-stripe the tennis courts adjacent to the golf driving range for multiple uses by tennis and pickleball players.

## Old Business

Bryan Rickman discussed the need to have the AED’s in the park checked on a regular basis at a minimum semi-annually.

Club tee shirts for instructors have been delivered and will be distributed.

## New Business

There was a survey of club members at the last Thursday social event regarding changes to the rating system and several other issues to get feedback to the Board before action is taken. Survey Monkey (an online survey process) was also be used. The paper survey and online survey results were similar. The first question was regarding ratings. The responses were mixed with about ~21% indicating they would like to be rated next year, ~26% would not be requesting a rating, ~26% not sure and ~26% already have a USAPA rating. Some of the respondents answered more than one option.

The second question was regarding interest in a pickleball machine. There were about ~18% that would be interested in renting the ball machine, another ~13-19% that would be interested but would need instructions, and ~62-67% not interested in renting a ball machine.

The third question asked was what the respondents would volunteer to do for the club. It appears that many of our players are willing to help in a variety of tasks. Nancy Heebsh compiled the information and made it available to the respective board members to contact those who were willing to help on specific areas.

Jan Wynn was selected as the on-line respondent to receive $25 for her participation in the survey. Josee ????? was selected at the Social event to receive $25 for her participation in the survey. Thank you everyone for your feedback.

**Board Member Reports**

**Treasure’s Report** – Tammy Brown

The income for the fiscal period October 1, 2018 to March 15, 2019 was $9,810.03. Total expenses for the period were $6,217.09 and the net income for the period was $3,592.94.

The bank balances as of March 15, 2019 was $12,833.56, a savings account balance of $50 and an additional $438.18 available in our Voyager account at the Activity Office.

A motion was by Dale Secord and seconded by Bryan Rickman to approve the Treasures report. The Treasures report was approved by the Board.

**Structured Play** – Larry Rauh

The structured play involvement continued to exceed previous years. We are on track to break all previous records on structured play (having the extra 4 courts may have helped).

Next year schedule will be the same as this year. The new schedule was approved.

Larry wished to thank the following volunteers who ran the structured play sessions:

Maxine Allen, John Mosher, Dick Heebsh, J.D. Walton, Steve David, Gary Meldrum, Don Dart, Ray Ekren, Joe and Barb Clark, Tammie Brown, Jane Gilmore, Jim Laughner, Chuck Gilmore, John Van Dam and Louise Wershey. Thanks All !

Larry discussed his conversations with the Voyager Neighbor to Neighbor program and the staff of the Activities office on areas that the pickleball players could volunteer in Voyager.

**Court Maintenance** – Dave Hart

The Voyager RV Resort will be replacing the tennis net in Courts 11-14 with a structural fence this summer.

**Court Usage** – Richard Hyde (absent)

There have been long waits on some courts and Gary suggested that there be a small committee of different skill levels to suggest new arrangements for next year. Larry Rauh stated that that is the process he uses for structured play.

Dale Secord made a motion to form a small committee with 2.5, 3.0, 3.5 & 4.0 players to advise a future Court Usage Coordinator on court usage and to assist in the duties. After discussion there was no second to the motion.

**Player Improvement** – Nancy Heebsh

The Board has approved the rewrapping the handles of the paddles used by the new players for the Beginner lessons.

The Beginner and Beginner Plus sessions continue to have more people signed up than there are spaces available. A challenge with the clinics is the wide range of player skill levels for clinics designated for a particular skill level.

The evaluations of the clinics by those participating in the clinics have been very good.

Jim Williams conducted a clinic on February 22. This was a success and was different from the usual clinics. Nancy said might expand that concept for next season. We are providing lessons and clinics for the 2.5 and 3.0 players and covering that group. Dave Hart has suggested a 4.0 skills practice.

Next week Mark Rennison of Third Shot Sports will be at Voyager to conduct special clinics.

Jane Gilmore says that she has multiple assistants but not enough instructors.

**Tournament Coordinator** – Sandy Black

Voyager Pickleball Club just completed the in-house resident tournament. The participation was down a bit with 67 players. The weather was extremely challenging.

The net income is approximately $700 after covering tournament fees.

Sandy thanked all the Voyager players who provided assistance in a successful tournament.

Priscilla Scott requested a motion for $700 to purchase medals for next year’s tournaments (Holiday Tournament and Residents Tournament). The motion was made by Bryan Rickman and 2nd by Gary Meldrum. Motion approved. Priscilla requested a motion for $100 to purchase wrist bands for next year’s tournaments. The motion was made by Gary Meldrum and 2nd by Sandy Black. The motion was approved.

The 2019 Holiday Tournament will be December 5, 6, 7 & 8th (rain day). There was a discussion on whether to keep the Holiday Tournament fees the same as this year. It was decided to keep the fees the same. The resident Voyager player tournament for next year will be held March 10, 11 & 12 using a round robin format.

**Communication**s – Dale Secord

Jan Wynn was chosen to receive the $25 reward for her participation in the online Monkey Survey. A gift certificate for $32 was provided to Char Quandt for the Voyager Pickleball social efforts.

**Social Coordinators** – Char Quandt and Peggy Douglas

For next year plans need to be made about when the Resident Tournament medals would be presented at the tournament or at the evening party. Similarly, plans need to be made about using a DJ for a dance. Char said the annual awards party should not last more than 3 hours.

There will be a dance and the annual Awards Ceremony in March 2020. It was also suggested to have a DJ and dance in February since it is the peak of our season. It was decided to have the end of the season party on Friday, March 13th. There will also be a welcome BBQ in January 2020.

**Rating Committee Coordinator** – Dave Bobanick

This year we have had 21 players request a rating evaluation using the Sign Up Genius process. Dave liked the new system because now he could read their email address and phone number. Two 4.0 players, six 3.5 players and three 3.0 players have been rated. Two players withdrew their requests and five players still to be rated. Three players did not achieve their requested rating.

**Public Comments** – Dan Galvin expressed concern that someone broke one of the plastic flaps on the top of the Tutor Pickleball machine hopper. He asked that if someone breaks pickleball equipment to let a board member know so it can be fixed.

Mike Kiichie raised the issue of changing the AED pads as well as the AED batteries.

Mike Kiichie raised the idea of adding a third tournament to the Voyager Pickleball schedule. He suggested that it be patterned on tournament that he had run at Mesa Spirit area. The concept would be to pair a 4.0 player with a 2.5 player, a 3.5 player with a 3.0 player in a blind draw and to play a round robin tournament. They charged $5 per person and had a BBQ and shared plate dinner afterwards. Mike offered to run such a tournament and Gary Meldrum requested Mike to prepare and submit a proposal. Dave Hart suggested bringing back the Voyager Pickleball Rodeo.

## Adjournment Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM by President Gary Meldrum. The next general meeting will be at 10:00 AM on November 16, 2019 in the Santa Rita room.

| Minutes submitted by: | Dale Secord, Board Communication Coordinator & Secretary |
| --- | --- |
| Approved by: | Gary Meldrum, President |