Minutes of the Meeting of the Golden Racquets

Board of Directors

April 9, 2019

King's Park Library, Springfield, VA

**Present:**

Connie Dineen, Newsletter Joanne Hensley, Webmaster Adele Neuberg, Membership

Laura Riesenberg, VP Leigh Albert, Secretary Howard Ho, Social

Joe Wittling, CIO Dave Fleming, Ops & Planning Al McFarland, Treasurer

Steve Mateo, Rating

Tom Burroughs, Rating and Acting Pres.

**Absent:**

Bob Dineen, CIO Marion MacRae, Caring

**Approval of the Minutes:**  Minutes from the last Board meeting of January 22, 2019, were approved.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Al McFarland advised the Board that he had requested an audit of the GR financials; Fred King conducted the audit and there were no issues. Al also mentioned that the Captains need to be aware that there will/may be some overlap in the season play scheduled for individuals playing at the Burke location in May.

Al provided the following financial information. The balance as of 4/9/19 was $42,569.75 and the balance reconciles with BB&T. Outstanding obligations include the Fairfax and Y summer court fees, net Summer court refunds estimate, Fairfax Parks donations to date, and Captain’s picnic expenses. The total of these unpaid claims is $18,302. Net assets total $24,267.75.

**President's Report:** Tom Burroughs made a motion that the GR roster in the future should include players’ city names, but that street addresses should be removed. The Board approved the change, with one dissenter vote.

See more updates/actions from the Acting President in the Old Business and New Business sections.

**Vice-President's Report:** Laura Riesenberg had no new issues but called for approval of the Treasurer’s Report and approval of re-closing GR membership. The Board approved both items.

**Caring Chair Report:** No updates – Marion McRae was not in attendance at the meeting.

**Social Chair Report:** Howard Ho advised the Board that the picnic previously planned for June 11 needs to be rescheduled due to a scheduling conflict. The Board approved moving the date to June 4, 2019. Joanne will update the website once Howard confirms the move date.

**CIO Report:** Per Joe Wittling and others, Joanne Hensley has done an outstanding job of updating the Golden Racquets website and the information on the site is now current.

**Membership Chair Report:**   Adele Neuberg assisted in notifying members via email about the opportunity of playing tennis this summer at Nottoway Park.  She will be working on some additional projects for Tom B going forward. Tom B announced that when GR membership was closed, YMCA membership will no longer be accepted as an exception to join GR.

Membership applications must be postmarked no later than April 13 and then membership is closed again.

**Website Manager Report:** Joanne Hensley is continuing to make improvements on the GR website. She will hide the member application on the website since membership is closing.

**Rating Committee Chair:**  Steve Mateo stated that GR has 46 new members and they are in the process of being rated. The Rating Committee rejected requests from four players to be reevaluated. Two individuals appealed and their appeals were denied.

**Ops and Planning:** Dave Fleming volunteered to do a member satisfaction survey in the future.

**Newsletter Report:** Connie Dineen asked BOD members to send her any articles for the next newsletter.

**Old Business:** An issue that was brought up at the annual meeting was finding funding from various agencies to offset expenses. Tom B has established an External Funding Committee to locate sources for external funding to offset player expenses with GR. Committee members will approach organizations that furnish applicable grants. Mel Kollander will head the committee.

Investigation into finding additional venues for Golden Racquets play has been continuing. Tom and Leigh looked at locations in Maryland and those locations have limited availability and only in early morning, which is not practical due to rush hour traffic. Springfield Golf and Country Club is a possibility but membership costs are quite high. Tom B met with Skyline OneLife Fitness and learned that GR could get three courts starting in September for $26/hour (membership fees would be waived). Tom will follow up this option for the Fall season. The Westwood Country Club does not offer tennis-only memberships, so costs there would be prohibitive. Finally, we are looking into the idea of not only having a September through November outdoor venue at Wakefield but doing the same at Mason District and Nottoway Park with just three courts. This will give us more courts for our increased membership.

**New Business:**

Tom B suggested creating a task force to urge Fairfax County to build indoor tennis courts for public use. There was earlier talk of a bubble at the Nottaway Park location, but neighbors protested and the idea was dropped. All other local counties have indoor tennis courts.

A suggestion was made that GR could join forces with USTA and possibly some other groups to create a super task force. The GR Board approved the idea of forming a task force to address the issue of lack of public indoor tennis courts in Fairfax County. Michael Grace has volunteered to head up our task force.

GR did not receive enough sign-ups to fill the Wednesday Fairfax tennis session. GR may need to modify the rating range or minimize the number of courts. The YMCA has courts available on Saturday and Sunday nights; Tom will survey the membership to see if there is interest in playing during those times.

The next Board Meeting is August 13, 2019.

Respectfully,

Leigh Albert

Secretary