

Racquets Advisory Meeting

January 12, 2021 7PM

Members attending- Amy Peck, Patty Felix ,Bob O'Malley , Ariceli Popen, Patsy Workman ,Kathy Stone, Madison McLain, Debbie Donahue, Rhett Parsons, Susan Morris, Terry Underkoffler (remote)

Guests Attending- Bob Baker, Joe Jankowski

Amy prefaced the meeting with comments regarding staff obligations that require extended hours beyond the norm. The members agreed to move our regular meetings from Wednesday, 7PM, to Thursday at 4PM to alleviate the effects on the staff.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Debbie remarked that most projects now have to wait for warmer weather. Bob and Tim are still working at the RC. Debbie requested a time line for work issues from the PW, hopefully to begin at the RC before Memorial Day when other amenities open for the season. The water cooler is scheduled to be moved closer to the lower court area.

We moved on to drop-in rate increases. Discussion resolved around, the Budget and Finance had suggested an increase to \$8 for residents and \$10 for non-residents and to make this for all sports, up from the current \$6 for resident and \$7 for non-residents, for pickleball and platform and \$10 for tennis. The RCAC recommended to Amy and Debbie that the rates to be \$7 for residents/\$8 for non-residents for pickleball and platform and that tennis rates be \$10 for residents/\$15 for non-residents. We also suggest that a discount cards or program be

created to allow Members to buy a guest card at a discounted price. This card could be used for family and friends. The card ideally would be available at the racket center, some ideas were 10 guest plays for \$50 or something similar. The goal is to give member and their families a “break” on the cost.

We also discussed membership opportunities at the Pro Shop with applications available. This would allow the management of the center to encourage guest to buy a membership. While it is understood that the permanent photo membership card is something that can only be done at the admin office the RCAC believes the accounting system (Northstar) should be able to be configured to allow the racket center to process the membership payment via credit card. However if that is unachievable for some reason the application could be submitted, with a check, to the Pro Shop staff, but new members would need to visit the Administration office to get a permanent card/ ID.

OP management has proposed a 5% increase in membership dues. There was discussion about family memberships (2 adults + children under the age of 22). A suggestion was made that a household membership level should be considered. This would allow all members of the household to join the racket center. There could also be an “add on” feature that let a member add others to their family membership.

Bob Baker presented the proposed replacement of the paddle hut. It was passed by the committee and will be forwarded to Amy for BOD consideration of the year’s budget.

New pickleball court permits have been approved and, assuming bids come in within the approved budget, construction may begin soon. If bids are too high, the proposal will need to be reviewed. Lighting was

not in the proposal, but it was suggested by the RCAC that the bid request include lights as an option. This would allow the approval of the courts to be granted and the budget is not sufficient to cover the lighting cost a separate funding request for the lights can be made.

Cel was named an ambassador for Spec Tennis. There are plans for programs and clinics for the spring.

Debbie has a list of court needs including tennis screens as well as those to be placed on the west side of paddle courts. Plantings would also help to block the setting sun.

Next meeting is planned for Thursday, February 10 at 4PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Morris and Rhett Parsons