

**Bellingham Pickleball Club
Board Meeting
March 11, 2024, 6:30 pm
Zoom**

Board Members Present:

Barbara Beer, Eric Roeder, Laura Sanderson, John Bailey, Jodi Mackey, Stephen McDowell, Steve Gibbs, Nancy Molinaro, and Molly Hammar.

Quorum:

President Barbara Beer noted there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

Minutes of February 19, 2023, Board meeting:

Eric made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2023, board meeting as amended. The motion was seconded and carried without dissent.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

John Hatten has indicated that he would like to be replaced as the Chair of the Tournament Committee and then focus on ladder competition. Board members were asked to think about a good successor for John. Erica and Kyle Klum will take care of the upcoming 4th of July and Orca tournaments.

The membership committee is without a leader and this important role needs to be filled. Again, Board members were asked to consider a candidate.

Barbara has a spread sheet with names of members who had indicated in their survey that they would be interested in volunteering. She will get that out to the board members so we can each follow-up with potential volunteers.

Eric met with Rick Anderson and Peter Homann at Cornwall Park to go over the proposed layout of the new pickleball courts and the one remaining tennis court. Eric and Rick will be meeting with Parks later this week to advocate for BPC's preferred layout.

The Club currently has just under 1,000 members, which seems to have plateaued. Laura should know by August or so if we will be able to rent the Mall space again next winter.

New Business:

We discussed whether to cancel more sessions at Fairhaven Middle School because of low attendance. Tuesday night sessions are currently cancelled, but could be reinstated. Laura will talk to Meg and find out what she wants to do.

A Discussion regarding who gets mentioned on our social media was tabled.

Old Business:

Jodi is working on the logistics of a fundraising tournament for The AIROW Project. The games would include both wheelchair participants and able-bodied participants. Rob (from WCC) and April (from Airow) are in discussions. The tournament would likely be at Whatcom Community College.

Jodi has the Club set up with Pickleball Brackets and Stripes.

There was discussion about recruiting new volunteers to fill committee leader vacancies. Eric will modify the previous Committee descriptions, many of which are out of date, and add information about the specific positions and circulate it to the Board. The goal being to create a document to be posted at BPC's Bellis Fair location and on the website to recruit candidates.

Eric will circulate his latest draft of the club's position descriptions. This document will be used for future recruiting efforts.

Laura will take on organizing Bellis Fair Mall next year if we are able to get that space again for winter play. There was much rejoicing.

Tape, net and balls are readily available at the mall for use in open play and skill development at the schools.

Raffle prizes and awards are needed for the 4th of July tournament. We can use merchandise from our stock. Balls have been purchased for use at the tournament and for prizes. Nancy will put prize bags together.

Good of the Order:

In our club we are self-rated. Because of this there are those who rate themselves incorrectly. This especially affects the 4.0 group. It was suggested that all those who rate themselves at 4.0 have a neutral, outside party, with a check sheet, evaluate each player to assess their skill level. Eric will look into this further after a bug in TrackitHub is fixed, which is expected soon.

Dana Miller is negotiating the club's annual MOU with Parks. Things are going well, so far.

There being no further business John made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried without dissent.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm

Minutes submitted by Molly Hammar, Secretary