

Bellingham Pickleball Club Board Meeting Minutes

Date: January 14, 2025

Time: 6:02 p.m. – 8:35 p.m.

Location: via Zoom

Attendees: Cathie Badalamenti (Secretary), John Bailey (Member-at-Large), Shelley Booth (Vice President), Viviano Gutierrez (President), Steve Gibbs (Member-at-Large), Molly Hammar (Member-at-Large), Jodi Mackey (Treasurer), Bill Miller (Member-at-Large), Kary York (Member-at-Large).

1. Quorum and Call to Order

Cathie confirmed a quorum was present, and Viviano called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Viviano presented the agenda.
- **Motion:** Jodi motioned to approve the agenda; Bill seconded.
- **Vote:** Unanimously approved.
- Viviano noted the agenda remains broad for Committee Reports but can be adjusted with specific details as needed. Shelley invited board members to share agenda details for inclusion.

3. Approval of December 2025 Meeting Minutes

- The December 2025 meeting minutes were approved unanimously via digital vote prior to the meeting.

4. Board of Directors Reports

4.1 President's Report

- **Covered Courts:**
 - Viviano signed a feasibility study contract with Whatcom Community College (WCC).
 - Kick-off meeting and site walk-through scheduled for January 23, 2025, with BPC and WCC and project team members. Viviano and Paul Orłowski will attend.
- **TrackItHub (TIH):**
 - Viviano, Bill, and Cathie met with TIH representatives to discuss contracts and platform issues.

- TIH Key Updates:
 - Current contract ends in August; BPC doesn't currently pay for TIH.
 - From August, TIH will charge 10% of fees or offer additional features for flat fees.
 - TIH confirmed BPC is its largest customer and committed to providing training and support.
 - Bill is cautiously optimistic that TIH will meet our needs. We will continue to evaluate over the next 60 days.
- Cathie's additional updates under **Communications**.
- **Capital Campaign:**
 - Bill chairs the Major Donor Subcommittee and reported that the team is developing a plan for cultivation and contact.
 - Cathie proposed starting a pledge-only campaign to capture current enthusiasm post-announcement.
 - **Motion:** Bill motioned to approve the pledge drive; Cathie seconded.
 - **Discussion:** Board raised concerns over insufficient project and financial details.
 - **Vote:** Motion denied (5–2).
- **Additional Updates:**
 - **Clothing/Food Drive:** Viviano seeks to identify drop-off locations.
 - **Storage Locker:** Locker identified; contract on hold pending asset assessment.
 - **Tournament Equipment:** Jodi clarified payment process for equipment purchases.
 - **BPC Liaison to Parks & Rec:** Jodi to contact Doug Schoonover for interest.
 - **Survey:** Viviano is committed to conducted survey and requested board input.

4.2 Vice President's Report

- Shelley continues to reach out to Viva Barnes (Open Play Committee Lead).
- Shelley sought clarity on moderating Facebook group posts.
 - Cathie noted the Facebook group launch is postponed due to communication priorities.
 - Current Facebook page is managed by James Fukuda (Social Media Lead).

4.3 Treasurer's Report

- **Updates:**
 - Received \$40,000 donation from Claude Blackburn for the feasibility study.
 - Secured Charitable Organization Registration from the Washington Secretary of State.
 - Bellis Fair program dues collected; 158 members with a projected \$12,000 profit.
 - Committees have \$300 budgets for supplies; receipts required.
 - Restricted funds (~\$8,000) in CDs designated for Covered Courts.
- **Motion:** Jodi motioned to add Viviano Gutierrez as a signer on BPC's bank accounts; Bill seconded.
- **Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

5. Committee Reports

5.1 Communications Committee

- **TIH Updates:**
 - Errors prompted password changes; access now limited.
 - Meeting with TIH scheduled for January 21, 2025, to address current issues and more efficient use of platform.

5.2 Membership/Volunteer Committee

- No new volunteer requests.
- Search for Facilities Lead postponed until spring.
- Membership welcome outreach transfer from Communications postponed due to TIH access issues.

5.3 Facilities Committee

- Committee inactive for winter; chair search to resume in spring.
- Has not heard of any updates on Cornwall court conversion.

5.4 Tournaments Committee

- John Bailey confirmed as Master of Ceremonies for Fall 2025 tournament.
- Suggestion made for a test run of equipment setup at Bellis Fair.

5.5 Finance Committee

- Steve suggested reviewing annual dues (\$30) considering the Covered Courts initiative.

5.6 Events Committee

- Molly awaiting directions for Volunteer Event scheduling.

6. New Business

6.1 Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

- Discussion included:
 - Potential for AEDs at all BPC locations.
 - Proper training on usage and maintenance.
 - Purchase tabled until more research into use is conducted.
- **Action Item:** Jodi to contact Dr. Marvin Wayne for guidance.

6.2 Health and Wellness

- Viviano proposed offering CPR or other wellness training. Discussion tabled.

6.3 BPC Branding

- Discussion on rebranding to “Whatcom Pickleball” and revising open play structure. Tabled for future review.

7. Adjournment

- **Motion:** Viviano motioned to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.; John seconded.
- **Vote:** Unanimously approved.
- **Next Meeting:** February 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

8. Action Items

1. Cathie to meet with TIH on January 21, 2025.
2. Viviano to meet with WCC on January 23, 2025.
3. Jodi to contact Dr. Marvin Wayne regarding AED and Doug Schoonover regarding BPC liaison role.