

**Bellingham Pickleball Club
Board Meeting
December 11, 2023 6:30 pm
Zoom**

Board Members Present:

Barbara Beer, Eric Roeder, Laura Sanderson, John Bailey, Stephen McDowall, Nancy Molinaro, and Molly Hammar.

Quorum:

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

Minutes of November 13, 2023 Board meeting:

It was noted that the revised minutes of the November 13, 2023, board meeting were approved by email.

Old Business:

Eric expressed concerns regarding the mall location which were communicated to Laura. Laura has negotiated a lower monthly rent and is waiting for the revised mall location contract. She will meet with the mall representative in person once the new contract is in hand and address the concerns that pertain to them. Other concerns are being reviewed, i.e. setting up utilities, staffing, cleaning, and how to monitor those entering the venue to make sure they are Club members and have paid to play.

The mall location should be self-funded, and enough club members have signed up that it should pay for itself. If others who have not signed up later decide they want to play at the mall, and if there is room, they will be allowed to join.

There are a few local businesses who are donating services, we will put a poster up inside the space acknowledging their donation if the businesses want that.

At the mall there should be some sort of advertising for Bellingham Pickleball Club that directs people to the Club website.

Stephen made a motion that the club advance some of the startup costs for the mall location. The motion was seconded and carried without dissent.

There was discussion about the low participation numbers at Fairhaven Middle School and would the mall location pull from that location. There should be a plan regarding paying for courts that are not being used. To avoid paying for courts we must notify the schools at least seven days in advance. Ten people need to show up for the courts to pay for themselves. It was suggested that we cancel Monday and Friday night's open play at Fairhaven Middle School. Laura will contact Doug Banner to see if he wants to

use the courts for skill development sessions before letting them go. Laura is going to cancel the two Friday night open play sessions scheduled in January at Fairhaven Middle School.

The 501(c)(3) paperwork is almost ready to be filed. That needs to be done as soon as possible as it may take several months to go through and may hold up a potential grant related to the pavilion project. The club's bylaws will need to be amended to become compliant with being a 501(c)(3) entity.

Eric made a motion that we file the 501(c)(3) paperwork as soon as possible. Seconded and carried without dissent.

New Business:

Does the Club want to sell pickleball light strings, made of unusable balls? We would pay for the string of lights, a club member volunteered to put them together. There is no interest in pursuing this at this time.

Eric briefed the Board on the events that occurred at a meeting Monday regarding the proposed covered pickleball pavilion. The committee working on the project is working hard and doing a good job making progress.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Molly Hammar