

Attendees: Brad Watson, June Curtis, Sid Greenner, Andy Magee & Lynneth Stuart-Hill

Meeting Called to Order: 4:05pm

I. APPROVAL MINUTES OF LAST MEETING Minutes approved from November 15th meeting

II. CURRENT BUSINESS

- December 14th Social at the Sidney Army and Navy. The guest list is slowly increasing. We are hoping/estimating that we'll have 30-40 people at the event. June has the table centres ready to go and will pick up name tags and plates. June will ask Dawn to supply the box to collect toys and how she wants the cash donations handled. Heather, Brad and Lynneth will look at Spotify playlists for dance music. Meeting for set-up at 5:30pm. Lynneth to bring banner.
 - January 13th fun tournament. June is getting Pickleball brackets ready to go. Registration will be open on Wednesday, December 20th at 7pm. Order of the events will be ladies, mixed and then mens. Approximate start times will be 8am for ladies event, mixed at 12, men at 4pm. Cost of each event will be \$15 per person. Prizes will be pickleballs.
 - Dec 4th NS staff report on PB. As a prelude to discussing the NS staff report on pb, Brad wanted us to note that meeting with Ben Martin is not very productive nor is letter writing. It is much better to lobby the counsellors and meet with a few of them privately. Information needs to be directly presented to them one on one. The NS staff report gave a short list of possible pickleball venues (set in rank order). Sid had a talk with Ben Martin who indicated he welcomed his feedback on his report. Cy Hampson was listed as #1 on the report but has been met with huge resistance as a pickleball venue. Blue Heron is not a suitable site as North Saanich changed the setting in the park and the new proposed venue would only be 25 meters from the Pat Bay Highway. Players would be exposed to unacceptably high levels of vehicle pollution and would be unable to communicate over the traffic noise. Brad mentioned that the other sites worth looking at are Sandown Park and Hospital Hill. Sound mitigation is finally being considered by the NS Council for Wain Rd Courts. Costs would be covered by NS Council. Sid estimated that building new courts, regardless of venue (when that is finally decided), will be at least a year.
 - Andy attended the North Saanich resident's association (NSRA) meeting on December 5th, 2023. NSRA runs series of polls amongst it's membership about issues concerning NS residents and presents the results to the mayor and council. Andy noted that there were over 70 people, Stephanie Munroe plus the mayor and 3 counsellors in attendance at the NSRA meeting. The numbers in the association give it significant political pull in the area. Andy introduced himself to John Kafka and asked if he would be willing to perhaps give a poll to their members about pickleball or allow Andy or Brad to present to their members on pickleball, sound mitigation etc.
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NSRA suggested we create a presentation about the pb courts at Wain Rd and ensure that both the pros and cons are addressed. Presentation could be put on PlaySpeak, website etc. Goal is to 'educate' the reader about the topic. We need to highlight why BH park would not be a suitable venue (ie. Health with being so close to highway).

- The executive then had a discussion around the potential value of PlaySpeak. Gordon Hardwick is VP of the NSRA and uses 'PlaySpeak' to communicate with NSRA. They have 600 people on the peninsula who use PlaySpeak to discuss topics. Andy is recommending that we look at this platform to use to communicate within our club and within other clubs (ie. VRPA, PCPC). The cost is \$500/year but we could share the cost with the other clubs. This platform would provide a 'one stop' shop for members of the clubs to obtain information on anything pb in greater Victoria.
- Update on member survey. Get survey ready to go out mid-January.
- Financial report: \$7544.86 in bank acct. Also have \$622.50 funds in Pickleball Canada account.

III. FUTURE BUSINESS

1. What should SPPA be offering members in 2024 and how to entice new members in 2024---group input (15 minutes)
2. Discuss approaching Panorama Rec Centre about converting some indoor tennis courts to pickleball courts.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

1. All of executive to go onto PlaySpeak and explore. Look up NSRA.
2. Start prepping a presentation
3. Sid to investigate how much it would be to cover Wain Rd courts.
4. June to organize pickleball brackets for tournament.
5. Brad to meet with Connie, President of VRPA
6. Brad to meet with principles of the Cy Hampson Park group

Next Meeting: January ??, 2024

Meeting Adjourned: 5:20 pm