

Racquet Club General Meeting November 7, 2024 – Minutes (Approved April 10, 2025)

Meeting: Called to order by Bob James, President, at 4:35 p.m. in Abravanel Hall.

Members Present: 121

Attendance: Present: Bob James, Ann Rike, Sid Saltzman, John Gildner, Donna Ryan, Robert Kelly, Harvey Bernstein, Absent: Felicity Swerdlow

Approval of Minutes: April 4, 2024 General meeting were approved. Motion: Ken Kruger, Second: Mary Blackman, Passed

Treasurer's Report (S. Saltzman): Balance as of October 31, 2024: \$8,828.74 and 538 members. S. Saltzman gave an overview of club spending on 3 tournaments, 9 Play & Stays, Cornhole, concert & volunteer events, equipment and the storage unit.

Board Introductions: President B. James introduced Board members.

Sports Update:

- Tennis: Bill McGrath noted that the active players list is 20-30 people. The group has 4 seasonal mixers, the next is planned for February and that Greg Smith will coordinate it in the summer.
- Paddle Tennis: Bill McGrath announced the active players list is about 20. They have Monday and Friday drop-ins, welcome new players and plan for small group instruction sessions.
- Pickleball: Harvey Bernstein announced the reconstruction of the Pickleball Committee and that job/duty descriptions are being developed and will be posted to attract volunteer participation. He noted the continued growth and popularity and that the Racquet Club is presenting a proposal to the Master Board to convert Court 4 from tennis to pickleball. Harvey commented that possible inclusion as an Olympic sport is subject to the oversight of how it is organized internationally. He also mentioned the success and participation of the teaching pro classes offered to members.
- Ann Rike addressed ongoing beginner lessons with 4-6 students in four sessions having an introduction and three 90-minute lessons and potential for advancing into novice lesson sessions with Herb Livsey. She noted that the clinics and small group lessons for a fee had been successful with mostly women participants and encouraged men to partake and that more Team Camp will continue after the first of the year.

2024 Review:

- Bob James highlighted the special events of 2024 that included the Cornhole Challenge in Abravanel "Barn" with the Golf Club, the Bocci Club mixer and potluck, and the new Volunteers Reception as a classy, well attended gathering.

Board Elections:

- Ann Rike acknowledged the Board Nominating Committee; Ann Rike, Sid Saltzman and Dannica Wood and conducted the 2025 board elections. She announced that the current board (less Felicity Swerdlow) were on the ticket and there were no nominations from the floor. For President: Bob James, Motion: Dannica Wood, Second: Michael Urban, Passed unanimous. For Board Members: Ann Rike, Sid Saltzman, John Gildner, Donna Ryan, Robert Kelly, and Harvey Bernstein, Motion: Janice Pelcher, Second: Jan Balog, Passed unanimous.

2025 Preview:

- Ann Rike reviewed the 2025 calendar mentioning Play and Stays every month, three Saturday Pickleball tournaments, repeats of the Cornhole and Volunteer events, and to look for more casual Pop-up events such as Round Robin play and spontaneous social gatherings.

President's Message (B. James):

- President James acknowledged several members for their outstanding service to the club. In particular he thanked Allison Wright, Greeter, Jeannine Ferrari, Sunshine, Suzanne Foreman, Editorial, Sharon Sorensen, Membership and Dave Johnson, Skedda. He also recognized Cathy Brendel, Patti Smith, Master Board Members: Scott Goldwasser, Lois Russell, and Allen Wilson, and Paige James for their special support to him and contributions to the club.
- Focusing on the club mission and vision, B. James provided interesting club history and trivia from its 1984 inception including printed literature from court photos to the Leisure Village logo. Tying that together with a club slogan "Just for the Fun of It", he noted recent board work on a multi-year strategic plan with included SWOT analysis and action plans to help direct the club leadership in such areas as event volunteer leadership and membership communication tactics and tools.
- Inspiring the audience, B. James talked about being more than a club member through "belonging". Recognizing that in 2024, 114 club members participated in tournaments while 1500 attended socials, he defined the club as a place to belong and to make it matter through vesting as a volunteer and participating for the physical and mental health that it provides.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:30 p.m. Motion: Sid Saltzman, Second: Robert Kelly, Passed

John Gildner, Acting Secretary
November 11, 2024