

## **Racquet Club General Spring Meeting April 4, 2024 – Minutes**

Meeting: Called to order by Bob James, President, at 4:30 p.m. in Abravanel Hall.

Members Present: 103

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

Approval of Minutes: November 9, 2023 General meeting were approved. Motion: Dannica Wood, Second: Mary Blackman, Passed

Treasurer's Report (S. Saltzman): Balance as of March 31, 2024: \$15,331.80 and 485 members. S. Saltzman encourage members to refer to club website for current general and updated information.

### Sports Update:

- Pickleball: Harvey Bernstein mentioned the sport's growing, world-wide popularity and that it is possible to be an Olympic exhibition sport in 2028 and Olympic competition in 2032. He also mentioned the Men's Doubles tournament scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup> and explained that an effort is underway to have intermediate lessons offered at affordable rates with an announcement coming soon.
- Badminton: Cliff Singh noted that the game should be played indoors and he sees negotiating the use of Abravanel Hall as the best option. He touted the excitement of this quick sport and that interested players can just show-up for scheduled play days as lessons and equipment will be available for all.
- Paddle Tennis: Bill McGrath announced the players list was 25-30, but with only 16-18 active. Through his and Dannica Wood's promotion, the active player list has grown by 8 participants. The group has added a second weekly drop-in day and trial paddles and instruction are available.
- Tennis: Bill McGrath noted that the player list is 79-80 people. The group attempted a drop-in day, but turnout was only 1-2 people for the month's' trial. They also had a Tennis Mixer with 8-12 attendees, but undeterred, will have another in the Fall and something else "new" later in the year.

### President's Message (B. James):

- President James announced that Vista Pickleball Club's March Tournament had three OHCC Racquet Club Gold Medal Winners: David Levine, Richard Rogstad and Allison Wright.
- Acknowledged Realtor Patti Smith for her special annual gift is the OHRC Official 2024 Sponsor.
- President's Cornhole Challenge had 64 players/48 games from the OHCC Racquet and Golf Clubs. Abravanel (Hall) "Barn" was utilized with the planning help of OHRC and Master Board member Allen Wilson. The no charge event was reviewed as great social activity and thanks to help from Mike Guillory, Paige James, Darla Haubner, Terry Chamberlin, and Ann Rike.
- Cathy Brendel prepared a comprehensive Pickleball player's training plan/report to the Board in December 2023. Implementation will begin in 2024 with clinics. To relieve strain on OHRC member volunteers, post-beginner Pickleball classes and instruction will be outsourced to certified, professional instructors. H. Bernstein and F. Swerdlow will interview coaches and vet the development and format of training programs.
- B. James and A. Rike prepared and delivered proposals for new storage bin and Croquet Lawn Venue usage to the Community Services Committee (CSC). With a considerable amount of equipment and supplies currently needing to be stored at private residents, a large storage unit was requested. The second proposal requests that the Croquet Lawn become an "official" venue to allow the OHCC community to make more use of the only sizeable green lawn in OHCC. The February 9<sup>th</sup> concepts and "rules" proposal with a March 8<sup>th</sup> follow-up were approved by the CSC to be forwarded to the Master Board. B. James referenced Master Board Reserve Study with its \$70K budget for resurfacing the racquet courts in 2025. Considering the international growth of Pickleball as a sport for all ages and the draw it has for new residents of OHCC, he suggested consideration for conversion of Tennis Court 4 to three additional Pickleball courts during the planned 2025 resurfacing project. Member David Stein asked about an impact study concerning

added noise affecting adjacent homes. President James affirmed that ongoing, noise dampening research focused on noise dampening, alternative pickleball balls and paddles, along with blocking screens will be part of the discussion and plan as it develops. The Board does not support an interim measure of painting pickleball lines on Tennis Court 4.

- A plea for event leadership volunteers was made, specifically for the Dinking Contest and Summer Chill concert. The May 4<sup>th</sup> Play & Stay being hosted by David and Marissa Stein will become the club's signature event to commemorate the OHCC 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Added to the usual event will be Pickleball, Paddle Tennis and Badminton demonstrations. President James announced a new approach to volunteer recruitment. The Board will tell members what is wanted of them through the publishing of "job" responsibilities and defined tasks needed to lead and/or assist with events.

Vice President's Message (A. Rike):

- Vice President Rike described the working relationship between the Maintenance Department and the Club, which has ongoing responsibility for managing the courts. With a new maintenance director in place, the work order system of reporting maintenance issues and needs will be swapped with direct emails between A. Rike, B. James, and the head of the department. The primary focus is to replace the Pavilion Patio's blue plastic tarp with a sailcloth cover, to bring in sport court professionals to assess all courts for needed repairs, and to install new bulletin boards.
- Emphasis was placed on utilizing the courts as if they were our own personal property. The need to handle with care and report misuse, damage, infestations, or needed repairs will save on resident owner's investment. Labeling paddles and bags make it easier to return lost items. Contact the Help Desk if a name label is needed for your paddle/racquet.
- Member Rich Halkyard asked for an update on an earlier proposal for circulating or mister fans at the Pavilion Courts patio and was told that the dormant proposal will be raised again with Maintenance. Patty Coffey suggested that alternative personal cooling methods such as personal mister fans and cooling cloths are inexpensive, effective and should be considered.
- A Securitas proposal to increase the number of AED/Defibrillators in OHCC is expected to be approved shortly. Included are one at the Pavilion courts and one in the vicinity of the Terrace Courts/Dog Park.
- The Club calendar was reviewed and special events for the remainder of the year highlighted. The need for volunteers was reiterated.
- Free beginner pickleball lessons continue for interested residents and require attendance at a brief orientation session. The Help Desk schedules attendance for all classes. Rich Halkyard asked that the overhead lob be banned as a safety concern. As a part of pickleball play, it's suggested that players avoid any action or play that may cause personal injury and that the lob will remain as a legal and viable shot

Acknowledgment: Thank you Ann Rike, Donna Ryan, Felicity Swerdlow, Paige James, Harvey Bernstein, Tom Rike, Rob Schoonover, and Bob James for helping setting-up the OHRC General Spring Meeting.

Board Introductions: President B. James introduced Board members, all of whom were in attendance.

Meeting Adjourned 5:26 p.m.  
John Gildner, Acting Secretary  
April 9, 2024