



Meeting Notes from Ely Pickleball Club Board Meeting - September 16, 2024

1. Meeting called to order at 12:25

- a. Attendees: Michelle Hedin, Craig Seydel, Cathy Bell, Liddy Shepherd, Jeff LeMaster, Matt Oberhelman, Debbie Cook

2. Approval of August Meeting Minutes

- a. Approved with the exception of correcting Debbie Cook's as Treasurer rather than Secretary as noted in the August notes.

3. Treasurer's Report

- a. Presented by Cathy
- b. Total monthly expenses of \$459.57 including:
 - i. Potluck Meat - \$62.85
 - ii. Awards for ladder play (DQ Blizzards) - \$57.44
 - iii. Putty knives for court repair - \$17.16
 - iv. Lucky Boy / August
 - v. Approved by Michelle / 2nd Craig

4. Old Business

A. Facility/Land Search Committee Update:

- i. Meeting with VCC regarding:
 1. Continued use of indoor courts - Michelle reached out to Chris to discuss fall / winter hours and use but has not yet heard back. Will follow up.
 2. Conversion of outdoor tennis courts to pickleball courts - Craig has met with Chris (Director of VCC Facilities) and Dave Marshall (Director of all Northern MN CC Facilities). They are interested in moving forward but have no money and no plans for the tennis courts. They are interested in what the Ely PB Club would need to move this forward with the understanding that Ely PB Club would be responsible for paying for the project but VCC would own the procurement process and oversee the project. Ely PB Board will explore legal and non-legal resources to respond back with our requirements to consider moving forward. All Board Members shared the same concerns and committed to ensuring our interests would be protected prior to investing any more time and money into this relationship. All agreed that we keep this issue separate from the indoor use of the facility and ensure we protect this relationship. Craig to present once our requirements have been finalized.
- ii. Meeting with Park and Rec regarding:

1. Use of outdoor rink, installing concrete or blacktop surface, and installation of permanent posts for nets for 4 courts - This option has been tabled for time being as no opportunity for more than our current courts.
- iii. Meeting with Ely School Board regarding:
 1. Existing of future plans of proposals impacting the current pickleball courts at the High School - Michelle , Don, Nancy and Roger attended the School Board meeting and they were assured that there were no current plans to eliminate the current courts or alter them in a way that would impact the Ely PB Club. They report that ithe school assures that they will keep the need for PB courts for the community in their future planning.
- iv. Meeting with City of Ely regarding
 1. Forming a partnership with Ely PB Club to secure land / facilities for pickleball courts not only for EPC and the community but also for tourism - Ely PB Board to attempt to schedule a meeting with Mayor and City Planner to begin to develop a relationship, communicate the growth of PB nationwide and in Ely, and ask if they would be willing to help us as we search for a long term solution to court expansion.
- v. Meeting with Fall Lake Township regarding:
 1. Developing outdoor pickleball courts on Township land - Craig attended a meeting and there seems to be interest in moving forward. We should know more about the viability of this option following the next Township Meeting.
- vi. Summary of Facility/Land Search Committee Update:
 1. Protecting and ensuring we have a long term solution that ensures the Ely PB Club Members have high quality courts which support the growth of the sport in our community and allows the Ely PB Club a high level of control is the Board's top priority. The meeting with the School Board provided some security in knowing that there are no changes planned to the property that our courts are currently on. This does not address the need for additional courts but it does provide us time to review the viability of existing options (listed above) and new options that may be presented.

B. Paid Member List

- I. Request for update has been made - waiting on Chris Hartman to provide.

C. Scholarship Tournament

- I. Cathy to report on total amount collected for the scholarship - \$1220.00
- li. Ely Echo to be contacted to gauge interest in taking a picture of the presentation of the check.

D. Court Repairs:

- I. Completed - Harlan and Karla worked extremely hard to patch and paint.
- li. Gift Certificate of \$100.00 to be presented as an appreciation of their work.

5. New Business:

A. Transfer of Treasurer and Member at Large duties to Deb Cook & Matt Oberhelman.

- I. Cathy Bell, Deb Cook and Michelle Hedin will meet at Highland Bank to make changes to signatories on the Ely Pickleball account.
- II. Deb and Matt to assume roles as Treasurer and Member at Large at October Board Meeting.

B. AED Storage for winter:

- I. Michelle to take and store

C. Court take-down and clean-up for winter:

- I. Tentative date pending weather is for 10/23
- li. Matt O. to complete inventory

D. Port-a-Potty Removal:

- I. Deb C. to call Lucky Boys to coordinate removal with court take-down

E. Brat/Burger Sale at Zups next summer:

- I. Board approved moving forward with Zups fundraiser next summer
- li. Deb C. to inquire about potential available dates.

6. Other:

A. Request that the Board send out a notice to members of each Board Meeting to allow input / questions regarding the agenda.

- I. Board approved and Michelle will send notice out 4 days prior to each BM.

B. Request to the Board that level play be extended for a longer play:

- I. Board voted 6-1 to maintain current balance of play (JL dissent).

C. Request to the Board that fall/winter PB classes be scheduled

- I. Board approved
- li. Michelle & Matt to co-lead this introduction to Pickleball.

7. Next Meeting: October 16th @ 12:15 p.m.

8. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 1:25