

**East Portal Bocce Club Board Meeting
East Portal Park Clubhouse
March 3, 2025**

Club website: www.epbcsac.com

Officers/Directors Present:

Jay James, President
Joe Pane, Vice-President
Catherine Travers, Secretary

Steve Choe, Director
John Leonard, Director
Romano Luchini, Director/Facilities Manager
Henry Powell, Director
Al Velasquez, Director

Officers/Directors Absent:

Iggy Lopez-Alvarez, Treasurer

Visitors:

Dennis Siebert
Richard Hunn

The meeting was called to order by President Jay James at 5:30 pm.

Roll Call

The roll call sheet was passed around by the secretary.

Approval of February Minutes

It was moved by Henry and seconded by Al to approve the February Minutes. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Henry reviewed the February Treasurer's Report for the group. Al moved and Henry seconded a motion to approve the Report. The motion passed.

Old Business

Friends of East Sacramento

Joe reminded the group that he feels that Board members should donate since we're asking for donations. He would like members to ask their teams to donate. A member donated \$2,500. Joe and Catherine get emails from Lisa Schmidt which Catherine prints out and saves. She then will send out a thank you letter which includes the tax-deductible information. If you use Paypal it will cost a little unless you absorb the cost or you can send a check. We have received \$3,964.69. Joe asked Catherine to read the names of the people who have donated which she did.

Joe brought up the proposed email that went out to the Board which was a second version. Steve Cohn wrote it. John preferred the previous version because it explained the cost of the project and that it went down from \$260,000 which puts the expense into perspective. Joe was initially concerned that the first version was too long, but he agrees that we can go back to the first version. Henry said that people want to know what the rebuild is costing. We will go back to the first version.

The Open Bocce Day must be planned with food, RSVP's. There was a discussion about asking people for sponsorships and how to recognize them at the event. There was some talk about businesses and neighborhood groups to contact which will be organized next.

Rebuild Update

John gave a report about the rebuild and the posts that are to be replaced. The trusses will be installed soon. John, as a developer, is not telling the contractor what to do but is paying attention to the work. An upload of documents was sent to the City Building Department Sunday. Both John and Dave Heard contacted their counterpart at the City asking for approval quickly.

Maintenance Update

Romano is getting an estimate to pave the area behind the stands next to courts 1 & 2. He's looking into a cement slab or pavers or concrete. It's where the proposed barbecue is going. John told us that for properly set pavers the area must be graded, then probably four to six inches of sand put down and then the pavers.

Concrete would be cheaper than pavers. Stamped concrete is an option. Romano asked if anyone knows someone who does concrete. John thinks we should ask the club if anyone does that type of work.

Notifying the Board of Use of Courts

The issue was tabled from last month and Jay asked if the Board wanted to table the issue for another month. Al moved and Romano seconded a motion to table the issue. Steve sent the Board a proposal to be discussed:

“To ensure fair and organized court use and scheduling, a group of members planning an organized group event requiring more than three courts (such as bocce parties, picnics, or informal tournaments) should notify the EPBC website manager (Mike Moylan or Iggy Lopez-Alvarez) via email. Please provide event details and the number of courts needed for inclusion in the monthly calendar. Note that calendar listing only acts as fair notice to other members of intended usage of several courts for a single event. It does not guarantee court reservation; courts are reserved only upon payment of the applicable rental fee.”

A discussion ensued:

John commented that while it would be valuable for the Board to hear about things he noted that what Steve has done is to organize volunteers to teach people how to shoot and play better. While he acknowledges that there was an expectation that he should have brought it to the Board before scheduling it, he thinks it's appropriate to consider prior notice as not critical. If Steve were to bring it to the Board and ask for permission to reserve two or three courts for an informal tournament that won't involve court rental and the Board approves it then that should also be placed on the calendar.

John stated that in his twelve years as a member there hasn't been a problem with court use but that now tournaments are being scheduled (besides league tournaments) due to the fact that the bocce complex is becoming known regionally and players like to play on our courts. He feels that our players are becoming much better and more competitive. Also, other players are willing to travel to play here.

Jay doesn't believe that our members should have to ask the Board for permission to use the courts that they would use normally.

Romano asked if the clinic will affect the teams having to reschedule games. Also, he would have liked more than a couple of weeks' notice for the Shooting Clinic and Exhibition Game, and to let the Board know and get it on the calendar. He

believes a lot of our members will not come out to watch the tournaments that Steve has in mind. He would like to see more intraleague tournaments.

Catherine disagrees with the proposal, feeling that it's a way to bypass the Board. She stated that she's been on the Board for three years and this has never been a problem. She believes the proposed language is trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist. She doesn't believe a court use issue is coming from Club members but from Board members. She pointed out that Laura Delarosa (past board president) brought her American Cancer Society tournament proposal to the Board by sending a letter, getting on the agenda, showing up to lay out her plans and answering questions.

Catherine also objects to calling a tournament formal or informal or a friendship tournament believing that there's no difference. Invitations go out, money changes hands, courts and hours are needed.

Catherine is asking for information about proposed tournaments ahead of time (date, number of courts needed, etc.) Also, she thinks it would be useful to have numbers that tell us how many people in the tournament are Club members.

Steve remarked that there's nothing in the Bylaws to require the information that she wants. Steve made a distinction between a formal tournament and an informal tournament. He groups informal tournaments with something like a birthday party. He believes that his proposal is a way to get something on the calendar and alert members that courts for an event are being used.

John believes the issue could be resolved with Board involvement and electronic notification and use of the calendar. Jay said that he believes it's important to know what's happening on the courts so we can answer questions. Also, he believes that members shouldn't have to ask for permission to use the courts.

Jay asked if Steve wants to table the issue. He is willing to table the issue if the Board wants to require notification for planned usage for a certain number of courts. John asked that Steve change the proposal to ask that reservations be made in advance and to be specific about what circumstances require a reservation.

After much discussion, the motion to table the issue passed.

Steve told the Board that he's moving the shooting clinic to Sunday, March 16. Steve will advise Mike and Ryan that it be put on the calendar.

Reschedule Update

There don't appear to be any problems with rescheduling.

New Business

Cosigner Amount

Iggy asked Jay to bring up an issue because in the Bylaws there is a set limit of \$250.00 to spend and above that a cosigner is required. He said that a majority of items he has to pay for are above that amount. John moved and Steve seconded a motion to raise the limit to \$500. The motion passed.

New Balls

Steve bought the new bocce balls which are on the way. He still has to buy the new pallinos.

Club Shirts

It was requested of Jay to discuss club shirts. We don't have club shirts in every size and color so do we want to order more? Al would like people to order what they want. Steve asked if we could put an order form on the website and was told that there is one there to order a shirt. Steve asked if there is a minimum order and Al believes that if there is an order for five to ten shirts it can be done. Al said that if we get some orders in the future, he can take it to the company and get it done. Jay said he'll put it on the website that if someone wants a shirt to fill out the form, send the form and a check to Iggy. Al believes that five or six is the minimum.

Proposed New Summer League

Henry advised the Board that he and Catherine wanted to send out an email advising the membership about a new regular summer league. Wednesday night is slated for the three-person league. The email will be looking for interest in a summer league on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. Al pointed out that someone could play on the three-person league and the summer league at the same time. Henry will write up an email text to send to Jay to be sent to the membership.

Lighting on Courts 4 & 5

John must get the electrical box reinstalled by courts 4 & 5. The cost of new lighting wasn't included in the bid for the rebuild. He believes we can fix the lighting for around \$500 to \$1,000 depending on if a Club member does the labor for free.

Also, John would like to ask for approval to host Simile Construction to have an office party at the courts. It would involve a couple of courts on a weekend.

Rats!

Steve said that David Zaffa blows off the courts in the morning and if Steve is there at night, he notices that the courts are covered with rat feces. Steve has seen rats running along the overhead rafters. After a little research, he knows that there are sonic systems to deal with mice indoors but that probably won't work for us. Jay asked about the pest control we are paying for and Steve reminded us that it's a non-toxic way to deal with insects. Romano said there's no garbage out but the portable toilets could be a problem.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm.