

**SCPA**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**September 11, 2023**

Type of Meeting: Regular Board Meeting

Attendees - Lynn Lowry, Stew Stewart, Wynn Harris, Brandon Barkley, C. Everett, AJ Pollard (via phone), Rheba Conner, Linda Vaughn

1. **Call to Order:** Lynn Lowry called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.
2. **Old Business**
  - a. Security System - The security system has already been purchased. Greg Thaxton from the County came over to look at how to install the system. We're waiting on the County to see if they can install the system for us.
  - b. SCPA Pickleball Instructors
    - (1) Darin is ready to go. Lynn sent Darin a memo this morning asking that he provide a bio for us. Darin will be obtaining his certification in Atlanta in October.
    - (2) Ben will become certified by PPR the first week of October.

SCPA will market Darin and Ben's services through our SCPA website and the County. AJ asked if we could keep their certifications on file and on our website. Lynn said that he will retrieve their certificates and pass them to Everett.
  - c. Volunteer Appreciation
    - (1) Teresa Copeland has been placed on retainer (\$250.00) so that she can move ahead with preplanning the Volunteer Appreciation Event, which is planned for December 12, 2023. Stew asked about budget – Lynn said that costs up to \$4500 was approved [in former board meeting].
    - (2) Lunch will be ordered from Quinns Catering.
    - (3) Lynn said that we will have some paddles, pickleball paddles, goodie bags from First National to award to some volunteers. Everett asked if we could possibly provide preplanned pickleball lessons from Darin or Ben. Stew asked if we could provide some sort of thank-you gift for all volunteers. Lynn confirmed that we will provide something for recognition of all volunteers.
    - (4) Everett said that he could provide a sound system for the Volunteer Event.

d. Lights for Courts 13-18

(1) The lights are due to be delivered by September 15, 2023. They will begin installation the following week on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

(2) Stew asked if the courts will be closed while they are working the next week. Lynn said that he didn't think closure would be necessary.

e. The National Pickleball Atlanta Metro Class has been cancelled. Their numbers were too low, possibly due to timing so close to the APP event.

f. The World Pickleball Tour Atlanta Challenger is still scheduled for October 20-22, 2023. Stew asked if the County indicated how many courts will be reserved. Lynn said, that once registration closes, they can give us an estimate. Stew suggested that, as soon as we know, we need to notify membership about court availability. AJ concurred with Stew's suggestion. Lynn concurred.

3. **New Business**

a. APP Update

(1) APP will not be holding their tournament in Atlanta in 2024. The APP is now requiring a minimum facility size of 24 courts.

(2) Lynn distributed a copy of the APP Task List which was used last year. Lynn is going to refresh this document and present it to the APP Committee on Wednesday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>. Lynn reminded board members about the upcoming APP conference call on the 13<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. EST. Lynn reminded board members that a conference call invitation was Previously sent to each board member.

(a) Lynn said that Brian Fresno will be the tournament director for the pros at APP.

(b) Lynn said that APP will want to know about food trucks on the Wednesday call. Brandon said that we have two food trucks confirmed. Brandon will follow up to see if other food trucks can be present. Lynn said that APP will have their expert take charge if they see that we have gaps in available food trucks.

(c) Lynn reached out to the nursing program regarding assistance with medical emergencies. They cannot be here during the week of APP. Lynn said that APP has a contracted medical provider that travels with them everywhere. This is for liability purposes.

(d) Lynn said that Griffin Sheriff Deputies have already been advised that there is a 24-hour schedule for them starting September 26 (8:00 pm) through October 1, 2023 (8:00 pm).

(e) Ortho Atlanta would like to have a tent at APP – The Board of Tourism is going to lend us their 10x20 tent. Stew asked what days Ortho Atlanta would want to be here. Lynn said that Ortho Atlanta would have to decide –Lynn recommended Sunday [Championships].

- (f) Stew said that we can get a current list of sponsors on the Sponsors Board. Everett also is keeping the website updated regarding our sponsors. Lynn said that we are doing a press release this year, and he will be listing all sponsors.
- (g) AJ previously sent out a picture of marketing information regarding APP instruction going on October 2, 2023. Lynn said that they typically do this every year and that SCPA was aware of this event. The APP sent us graphics for this post-competition APP event and the map. AJ suggested that we communicate this to our members.

b. Discussion Regarding SCPA Supported/Recognized Private/Invite-Only Type Events

There was lengthy discussion regarding this topic – below are some of the discussion points; however, the board ultimately decided [due to the late hour] on tabling final decision-making until another meeting could be called after the APP event. No votes or decisions were made.

- (1) Mention was made regarding Juneteenth and Black History Month celebrations. A question was raised: “Did they come to us and say that they wanted to do this? Stew said that these events should be recognized in advance.
- (2) Should we as an organization recognize private events or invitation-only events at all? Brandon said that we should only allow those events that have been recognized by the board. Stew mentioned that he was apprised by two former board members that this question was resolved last year among previous board members. Lynn disagreed.
- (3) What if an organization comes and says that they want to reserve the back courts. The first question would be “When? – i.e., not on the busiest day of the year.” We have held Round Robin events, and we’ve not considered the public. When we limit these Round Robin events to 48 out of 300 members – is that fair? Stew said that we give all members the knowledge that the event is going on, and every individual has an opportunity to sign up.
- (4) Are the Round Robins sponsored by the SCPA? Ben holds Round Robins on evenings.
- (5) A recommendation was made, “If SCPA wants to host an event, we would meet and collectively sanction the event as SCPA board members.” If SCPA doesn’t want to get involved, we can send those requesting private events to the County.
- (6) How do we reserve courts?
- (7) Brandon asked, “If you can’t reserve courts, and a situation develops where people are waiting, what’s the protocol for the rotation?”
- (8) AJ said that he felt that any private events involving the use of the courts at Tyus be sanctioned and approved by the SCPA first.
- (9) This agenda item was tabled for the next board meeting after the APP event.

- c. Discussion Regarding Court Rotation Protocols When Facility is in Player Overcapacity
  - (1) Lynn suggested that we put something together about our court rotation protocols and take our protocol to the County. Stew said that he didn't think we could establish protocols during this meeting [later hour]. He said that we can't have a "one-size-fits-all" protocol.
  - (2) This agenda item was tabled for next board meeting after APP event.
- d. Discussion Regarding Court Rotation Protocols When There is an SCPA Activity and Public Play Overcapacity Situation?
  - (1) Should we establish SCPA activity rotation protocols and public play rotation protocols?  
"If we established court rotation for the general public, this would apply to public play overcapacity situations."
  - (2) This agenda item was tabled for next board meeting after APP event.
- e. Rheba motioned to approve the minutes from our last meeting. Everett seconded the motion. Unanimous – Yes 7-0.
- f. Everett said that he needed the dates for Pickleball 101 registrations.
- g. Stew mentioned that we had obtained \$14,000 in sponsorships (\$5,800 in 2022). He said that we can do better by more people approaching other contacts. Stew said that he can talk better to potential sponsors when he has a name of an individual within the company or a referral.
- h. Rheba brought up a former board meeting agenda item about complimentary towels or SCPA bag tags to be included in the new-member package. Lynn agreed to order more bag tags.
- i. Lynn said that he was approached by a couple of players who went to Fuel Barn, a new smoothie bar near Roses. These players really liked their smoothies and suggested that Fuel Barn be able to set up their services through our concession. Lynn mentioned that he wanted to ensure revenue-sharing if we voted to do so. Linda said that she was concerned that, "If we allow one vendor to set up in our concession area, other vendors will seek the same consideration." Other board members expressed concern about the congested space of the concession area, also.

4. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

