

Western Slope Pickleball Club Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2016, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Lincoln Park Barn, Grand Junction, Colorado

The meeting was called to order by Brenda Furnace at 6:00 p.m.

Welcome and Introduction: Brenda Furnace

Brenda thanked everyone for attending the meeting and special thanks to Lorie Gregor, Service Director for Adult Programs and Art & Culture at the Grand Junction City Parks and Recreation Department. The idea of a GJ Pickleball Club has been Brenda's focus over the last year. Our first meeting is for organizational and informational purposes. Agenda outlines were available to all attendees. Attendees were encouraged to ask questions, make suggestions and participate by a show of hands in appointing Board Members.

Examples of Possible Club Goals: Brenda Furnace

(Long and short term Club goals will be determined by the Club Board of Directors, to be determined at this meeting, with input from members via Members at Large reporting to the Board.)

- ❖ Lighting for Lincoln Park courts
- ❖ Squeegees for all courts
- ❖ More courts
- ❖ Water fountain at LP near courts
- ❖ Resurfacing of Pineridge Courts
- ❖ Obtain 501C3 status
- ❖ Help train and encourage players to obtain referee status
- ❖ As a Club, support the City Parks & Rec. Dept. to provide needed improvements at all GJ Pickleball Courts
- ❖ Develop a mentoring program encouraging play at all skill levels, leisure and competitive.
- ❖ Long Term Goal: have enough courts to host a National, Regional or possibly and Open Pickleball Tournament in Grand Junction. This will bring in revenue to the City, bring better players and help the sport we love to grow on the Western Slope.

Proposed Mission Statement: Brenda Furnace

(to be reviewed and finalized by the Board Members)

Building a strong Pickleball Community by promoting, teaching, playing and building our sport by working as a support to the Grand Junction Parks

and Rec. Department by fundraising to develop more dedicated courts and improvement of current courts. To promote health and fitness on the courts to keep our community strong. Bringing players together for fun and fitness. Brenda asked for a show of hands to approve the proposed Mission Statement. No objections were voiced.

Membership Fees/Dues: \$35 per person. Minimal age limit will be established by the Board at a later date. Membership includes: WSPC T-shirt (neon, white or green) and a 1 hour Pickleball lesson per person or 1 ½ hour lesson for 2 persons with Tao Thongvanh.

All membership dues/fees will go to the Club. We are accepting cash or check for anyone wishing to join tonight. Membership forms and T-shirts are available.

The process of paying membership dues for those persons wishing to join later will be communicated to all players in the near future.

Checking Account, Tax License City of GJ, 501C-3: Brenda Furnace Checking account to be opened and tax status to be established by Club Treasurer(s). Tax License is a one time fee of \$10.00. Brenda has been researching 501C-3 status requirements and may cost up to \$400+ and take up to 1 year to obtain. Establishing a working Board of Directors and bylaws for the Club is one of the keys to obtaining 501(c)-3 status.

Short explanation of 501(c)-3: This status means that a particular nonprofit organization has been approved by the IRS as a tax exempt, charitable organization. 501(c)3 organizations can receive unlimited contributions from individuals, corporations and unions and apply for grants.

Lorie Gregor clarified that any donations toward converting the Quick Start Tennis Courts to four new Pickleball courts can be made to the City Parks & Rec. as a charitable contribution.

Club Fundraisers Already in Place: Brenda Furnace

Chris Kopanos has provided us with T-shirts that will be included with membership (approx. 56) and in the future he will sell them to us at cost and we can put the rest in the WSPC account for future projects.

Tao Thongvanh is donating his time to provide Pickleball lessons for Club members.

A big THANK YOU to Chris and Tao for their generosity and support.

Appointment/Election of WSPC Board Members:

[Brenda has candidate suggestions and requests additional nominations from attendees. Final installment of each Board Member elect will be by a show of hands and acceptance (verbal or by text) by elected member(s).]

- President: Brenda Furnace
- Vice President: Mike Cox
- Fundraising: Terri Schaefer + additional person
After some discussion by the group and Terri it was determined that this position would require at least 2 Board Members and a Committee to be determined later. The following people volunteered to help:
Jan Kerr Walter Cummings Cheryl Reigle
Bill Edwards Joe Egloff Eileen Egloff
Boomy Sabandt Phetsamone (Pat) Mike King

- **Membership:** George Gerson
- **Secretary:** Linda Griffith
- **Treasurer:** Paul Liang with Nancy Eaton as back up
- **Outreach:** TBA
- **Communications/PR:** Henry Bullock
- **Webpage:** Diana Alpert (will research and report)
- **Members At Large:** Club members who will gather information from all players and represent their input to the Board.
 - 1) Laura Atkinson
 - 2) Tao Thongvanh
 - 3) Nancy Burdette
 - 4) More may be added at a later date.
- **Additional Pickleball Ambassador for Grand Junction:** Tao Thongvanh
Ken Hobbs is also an Ambassador.

Resources: Grand Junction Parks & Rec Dept (Lorie Gregor), Tao for lessons, Chris for T-shirts, Lions Club, USAPA, Local businesses, Henry & George G. for Facebook, Diana Alpert for Web site. This is not an inclusive list – only examples.

Attendance: 53 persons were present at the meeting.

General Attendee Discussion and Questions:

(Generally, individual names are not included in this is a general summary. Apologies if someone's comment(s) was not included.)

- The Club Board Members will meet in the near future to establish bylaws, job descriptions, and length of term for Board Members and organizational goals. All meetings are open to the public and will be communicated to members. Minutes of all meetings will be communicated in a timely manner.
- An annual meeting of all Club members will be determined by the Board.
- Long and short-term goals will be established by the Board with input from members.
- Club membership is strictly a personal decision by each individual.
- Written suggestions submitted:
 - 1) All issues should be voted on by each club member.
 - 2) Assign a dedicated court at Lincoln Park for beginner players

Adjournment: Brenda adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Linda Griffith, Club Secretary.

June 22nd, 2016