

Western Slope Pickleball Club
Meeting Minutes
September 19th, 2019 at 5:00-6:45pm
Ed Bozarth Chevrolet Building

President - Jeffrey Smith

Past President – Brenda Furnace

Vice President – Bruce Gregg

Secretary-Linda Griffith

Treasurer- Beth Klein

Membership/Communications Director: George Gerson

Web Site-Tracy Dvorak

Outreach Director- Brian Hart

Social Chairperson – Anna Goetz

Members at Large: Bill McEnteer (PR); Wanda Robinson (Palisade); Mike Fortner (Fruita); Lincoln Park (LP) – Walter Cummings

Fundraising Director: Vacant

Board Attendees: Brenda Furnace, Beth Klein, Linda Griffith, Jeffrey Smith, Tracy Dvorak, Bruce Gregg, Mike Fortner and Brian Hart.

Absences: Walter Cummings, Wanda Robinson, Bill McEnteer, Anna Goetz and George Gerson.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Club President, Jeffrey Smith at 5:00 pm. Jeff welcomed everyone.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: (Aug 15th Minutes – emailed to all Board members prior to meeting)

August 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved with no corrections or additions.

Unfinished (Old) Business:

1. *Policy for Club membership for person under 18 yrs:* Club bylaw review: only references to age indicates Club member must be 18 or older to be a voting member or a Board member. Board discussion resulted in a **Motion** by Brian and seconded by Bruce to: Offer a youth Club membership for \$20 for players under age 18 with full member benefits with the exception of Lobster pickleball machine rental. Additional exemptions may follow per Board decision. The motion carried by unanimous “ayes” from all present. Tracy will add the “Youth Membership” to our current Club membership Application. She will present the revised form at the October meeting. Youth membership will required a parent or guardian signature of responsibility.

2. *“Scholarship” fund for Club membership*: After a brief discussion, Board members decided to not set up a formal fund. Any Club member(s) wishing to donate a membership fee for another applicant will be referred to George as Membership/Communications Director to award on a case-by-case basis.
3. *Purchasing Policy*: Jeffrey presented a draft policy (on file) to ensure financial accountability for the use of all Club funds. Several changes to the policy were discussed and Jeffrey will revise and resubmit the policy at the October meeting.
4. *Singles Tournament Oct 5th Update*: George per email – Registration is open with 18 players registered. Brenda has volunteered to be the Tournament Director and will asking for volunteer referees and helpers.
5. *Club Sweet 16 Oct 12th Update*: George per email – Registration opened 9/16 for those not participating in the June S16. 22 players registered the first day.
6. *Used/Donated Paddles*: Linda reported about 20 paddles previously donated to Henry Bullock for a Veteran's event Sept. 2018 have been returned to the Club. The paddles are in the Pickleball storage shed at LP. Some may need repairs. Future use to be determined.
7. *Response to “Perfect Game” email (08/13/19) from Jeffrey*: Brenda spoke with some Club members that expressed the need for consideration of upper level players. 4.0 plus level players often cannot participate in competitive play. If upper level players cannot find courts with competitive play to allow them to be “tournament ready”, they may be discouraged and/or migrate to other venues. These players are willing to share their knowledge and skill with others but need to have their skills challenged on the courts. Suggestion: Post “Unspoken Pickleball Etiquette” rules at the courts.

They would like the Board to consider supporting upper level players that are in the minority but need quality court time.

The Board will take under consideration the possibility of “challenge courts” or “designated” courts for upper level players. Next Steps item.

Officers' Reports:

President/Jeffrey – General Information. No discussion.

1. Again, LP East court shades: Court 3 shade was broken off it's posts by a golf cart collision. Shades on east side of courts have been modified and repaired. Jeffrey added flat backs (striped in yellow/black) to hopefully avoid further damage.
2. Curt and Mike Hansen modified the Club's LP storage shed to provide an internal locking cabinet to store the Lobster pickleball machine.
3. GJ Parks & Rec installed new nets on all the pickleball courts at Lincoln Park.
4. Round Robins are continuing at Pineridge Park with Gordon Dirst & Bill McEnteer coordinating play along with volunteers. (See emails dated 08/19/19 on file, from Jeffrey-Pineridge Round Robin Update and Message from Gordon

Dirst-Pineridge Round Robin Players.) Balls and a secured/locked storage box have been provided by WSPC. Thank you to Brenda Furnace, Mike Fortner, Gordon Dirst and the Pineridge volunteer group for supporting the effort.

Treasurer/Beth: Cash Disbursements and R&E reports ending 8/31/19 emailed to all Board members prior to meeting. (reports on file) Jeffrey suggested a budget line item for the Lobster pickleball machine rental be added.

Current Balance on hand is \$25,248.86. Reports were unanimously approved with no corrections or additions.

Vice President/Bruce:

1. 24 Rd Cleanup looks fine for now. Will schedule for Oct or Nov.

Membership & Communications/George: (per email report)

Yr Ending	Total Members	New Members	Renewing Members
05/31/20*	344	102	243 (74%)
05/31/19	329	132	198 (76%)
05/31/18	262	107	155 (84%)
05/31/17	184	184	0

*as of 9/17/19

Final Parks & Rec Beginner Clinic for this year will be September 21. Beginner clinics for New Dimensions program will be held on October 10 and 17.

WSPC Member Directory – members have been notified by email to submit any revisions, additions or changes. The final annual Club Directory will be distributed by email on October 1, 2019.

Website/Tracy:

1. Events and tournament calendar is now posted on the website. Jeffrey thanked Tracy for her timely response.

Outreach/Brian:

1. Brian is checking on pickleball teaching opportunities in local middle schools.

Social Chair/Anna (report by email)

Our **September Drill fest** was a success, with cooperative weather, excellent coaches, and happy participants. Our coaches were Boonmy S., Hack Jensen, Ed Roffey, and Terry Douchant. Nine people joined us for yoga led by Mary, and 16 participated in the drill fest. Thirteen people are on the wait list. We had one no-show, so Jim Goetz (the only person from the wait list who was present) was allowed to take part. People are asking when the next one will be.

The Fall Social is taking place at Don and Jana Donohue's home (1201 17 1/2 Road, Fruita, CO 81521) next Friday, September 27 at 5:30 The theme is Hawaiian! Mike

Fortner will be providing brisket. Anna is working with Aiaga to get tables and chairs. Mary and Anna will bring water, paper plates, cups, silverware, rolls, and condiments. Thank You, Brenda for the colorful email flyer!

The **Halloween Howl** is happening on October 31.

The **Christmas party** is set for December 14. Mary is working to get her decorating/set-up committee going. **She needs volunteers!**

Saturday, December 14, 6:00 – 9:00 at The Masonic Hall 2400 Consistory Ct.

Grand Junction, CO 81501

White Elephant Gift Exchange

Potluck vs catered to be determined

Drink tickets available for purchase (beer and wine)

Past President/Brenda:

1. Suggestion: Add AJ Murray's contact information to WSPC Contacts List as Lobster Maintenance person. Add Cheryl Reigle and Gordon Dirst as Round Robin Coordinators. All agreed-Linda will do this and distribute a revised list.
2. Receipts for Lobster startup and Pineridge round robin costs submitted to Treasurer.
3. Check from GJ Parks & Rec for Summer Youth Pickleball Program submitted.
4. At Jeffrey's request, Brenda supplied a Pineridge Storage Box audit. (on file)

At-Large Reports:

Walter (LP) – no report.

Bill (PR) – report by email.

The volunteer group has been successfully running the Tuesday/Thursday round robins. Start time will be 9:00 starting Tuesday September 24. The new box holding all the round robin gear has been a great addition. Play has been very good with numbers close to 45-50 each session. There are over 100 new balls ready when needed.

Wanda (Palisade) – no report

Mike (Fruita) –

Saturday, Sept 14, 8-10 am- Mike and Nicole (Fruita P & R) conducted a pickleball beginners clinic with 6 participants. Mike distributed Pickleball Etiquette rules & Club membership applications.

Committee Reports:

Lobster Committee-Tracy:

30-35 Club members have been oriented and are on an email list to receive storage shed lock codes. Hope to hold another orientation session within the next 2 weeks. Brenda mentioned there have been very few rentals since the orientation session. We need to encourage members to use it. (See Aug 27 email on file). Brenda indicated someone needs to follow up with Mountain States insurance regarding coverage for the Lobster. Jeffrey will follow up.

Court Expansion Committee-Bruce: August 27th meeting with Ken Sherbenou, GJ Parks & Rec Director, Greg Caton, City Manager and Traci Wieland, GJ P & R Deputy Director summary.

George, Brian, Jeffrey and Bruce met with the above and presented these points:

- Extreme need for more indoor and outdoor pickleball courts to meet player needs
- George presented a GJ Pickleball history and current Club membership info
- The Big Picture Proposal of 2017 – What happened to the GOCO grant proposal and plan to expand LP facilities, convert the tennis courts to pickleball courts and constructing 4 new tennis courts at Canyon View Park. Planing to begin in 2019 with grant submission in 2020. *Reply: Rather unspecific with reference to resistance of “downtown” tennis group resistant to sharing or converting LP tennis courts to pickleball and the need for more than 4 additional tennis courts at Canyon View. Perceived increased costs killed the project. Our committee will continue a dialogue and press for more clarification. Ken Sherbenou said he will contact Bruce with additional information. As of today-no contact has been made. Bruce will follow up and report at the Sept meeting. Ken did report that Lorie Gregor monitored the PB & Tennis courts for usage and found on an average day there were 2 tennis players to 40 PB players at LP courts.*
- Request for Ken & Traci to provide more specific info regarding the Big Picture Plan such as history, chronological timeline, and costs. No info received yet.
- Suggestion to share LP tennis courts using portable nets. Line 2 of 4 tennis courts for pickleball *Reply: City group will take it under consideration and get back to our committee.* No information received.
- Brian shared as timely newspaper article about Brigham City, Utah's annual Tournament of Champions expected to result in a \$100,000 positive economic impact for the community. That's a 25% increase over the previous year's tournament. Our committee also discussed the impact of Pickleball on various area communities such as Delta and Montrose.

The Expansion Committee will continue to push the above issues and solicit answers to our questions. More information to follow in the near future.

Sanctioned Tournament Committee-Brenda:

No timeline at this time. Still formulating a plan and gathering information. She

will gain experience by conducting the upcoming Club Singles Tournament.

New Business:

1. *Urban Street Fair, October 19th* – GJ Parks & Rec approached Jeffrey regarding WSCP participation. The Club participated last year. Jeffrey filed the form indicating the Club would provide portable nets and the P & Rec would need to line the street for 2 regulation pickleball courts. Brian will organize the effort and solicit volunteers. Participation by event goers was considerable in 2018. The Board agreed to participate in the event.
2. *Lincoln Park At-Large Member resignation:* Jeffrey announced the receipt of Walter's resignation from the Board. (on file) The Board accepts Walter's resignation and greatly appreciates all he has contributed. Linda volunteered to take over At-Large duties at LP until a new member is installed.
3. *Youth Pickleball inquiry from P & R for Winter/Spring:* Jeffrey distributed a request to the Board members. After a short discussion, it was decided not to participate due to the extreme lack of indoor pickleball courts. The P & R department will be informed by Jeffrey.
4. *Do we need a Tournament Committee to manage local events?* Following a discussion, Beth Klein volunteered to head and form a Tournament Committee. Several Board members volunteered their services and support.

Next Steps List :

Policy for Club Membership for person under 18 years old- *Tracy-Oct agenda*
Policy for Club purchases – *Jeffrey-revised policy at Oct meeting*
Area (other towns) League play? - *Brian/Outreach*
On Line Registration for Club membership – *Tracy*
Drone footage of LP & PR Pickleball Courts
Drilling Committee – *Anna*
Challenge and/or 4.0 plus court availability
Post Pickleball Etiquette at courts
Open Board position- Fundraising
Open Board position-At-Large Lincoln Park

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday, October 10th, at 5 pm - Ed Bozarth Chevrolet

Adjournment/Jeffrey: 6:43 pm.

Date: October 7, 2019
Linda Griffith
WSCP Secretary

Date Approved: October 10th, 2019