

Athens Area Pickleball

Board meeting January 16, 1:00pm
150 Sweet Gum Dr., Athens (Lilly's House)

Board members: Lilly Garrett, Vickie Edwards, Kevin McHugh, Ian Bassett, Tom McEnaney
Janelle McCain

Advisors: Polly Crumbley, Owen Bullard, Steve Bryant, Jerry Tolbert, Penny Adams

Citizen Group

Absent: Diane Strong, Joan Baird, Pam Benson, Valerie Fagan, Kris Bakowski, Valerie Fagan

Start meeting: 1:01

Approve December minutes:

Kevin motion, Ian approve with Janelle's changes. Add "time constraints to reason for her leaving USA Pickleball ambassador position.

Insurance coverage is about the same as last year. Quote is \$800 for 1M in coverage. Kevin looking at cheaper cost for lower coverage as a comparison.

Treasurer's Report-Kevin

65% collected from 2023 membership. Looking at approximately 500 members.

Membership-Kevin

Michelle Millimen – should we give her free dues for the membership benefits she provides. She does DUPR clinics and Wednesday challenges. We will grant that for 2023 and reevaluate annually. Motion to accept – Vickie, second – Tom

One person joined end of Sept and will roll over dues to 2023.

Mark Frost has recurring dues paying. Kevin will adjust fees before issuing refunds to him monthly.

Leisure Services/Equipment Report-Tom McEnaney/Ian Bassett

- Blower available at Tennis Center for SEC – available when open. Problem with getting our own is storage.
- First United Methodist Church- we will replace bad net – will be getting some balls from extras at Heard park
- YWCO -will replace net there also provided with 2 dozen balls also

Tom updated everyone on the email to Kent Kilpatrick about maintenance and safety on the courts.

Need to draft a letter to Kent and county commissioners on what we need, not what we want. Tom and Janelle will draft letter to all the county commission and the mayor and Kent and Keith as well as posting on our Pickleball Facebook page. Need to show how they are hurting themselves by not maintaining the current conditions. Need to show the benefits of the community. Can't use Satterfield, can only use 3 at SEC. Maybe go to commissioners meeting. What is allocated to maintenance. 3 in front are the only courts that dry and aren't fully shaded all day.

Combinations will all be changed as soon as Tim can verify emails and active memberships. Hopefully by the end of the month. Lilly will check with Tim

Roy Carroll is getting an update on boy and girls clubs. Hopefully have an update next month

Communication Facebook Group-Polly Crumbley

Facebook group has 485 members. It's ok to allow people to post tournament on the page.

Social Committee-Joan

Joan has Coventry Church available for gatherings.

Discuss setting up a pickleball picnic day as a Spring Social and inviting the public, Maybe do it at SEC and invite everyone. Get Paper/Photos.... Janelle suggested having it benefit first responders and suggested speaking with Brian Smith.

Planning a Pickleball Social gathering on a monthly basis or every other month. The first gathering is tentatively set for February 9 at Akamdemia on Atlanta Highway at 6:30. Future locations considered are Southern Brewery, Creature Comforts, Wire Park, Athentic

Citizens Committee-Valerie

- Clarke Central – no updates
- Willie Greene – no updates

Old Business

- Brochures are in – Tim has, Lilly will pick up.
- Keto Krisp bars (find out who is on a Keto diet?) consider leaving at a table at SEC or a way to distribute the bars. Will consider asking on Facebook page.
- Pain Cream sample (donate to Council on Aging?) Look to have a Keto bar and pain cream combined with a brochure for people to get.
- Suggestions for our 10 years of pickleball in Athens **Summary below:**

Picnic that is open to the public and invite commissioners and mayor

Raise funds for special groups – first responders, food bank, toys for tots, can-a-thon, anything to raise awareness of how pickleball improves and works for the community. Look at a minimum of 2 community awareness events per year.

Provide a survey to the membership and offer a gift certificate drawing for all that fill out the survey. Survey will incorporate when, why, how long have you played, will you serve on a committee(clinics, social, tournaments, membership, facilities), age range, tournament participation, interest in league play, rate yourself 2.0-5.0, etc..

Check the website to make sure it's updated and consider having a photo contest to promote activity on the site

New Business

- Ashford Orthopedic Specialists **Attached email** - willing to sponsor a tournament, could invite them to come to a luncheon, maybe sponsor spring fling. Promote 10

years of Pickleball in Athens. Kari Boone and Dr Williams said they would be interested in sponsorship of a tournament or luncheon or just providing information to the players

- Article in Ampersand edition of the Red & Black. Lilly picked up a bunch and wants to include them to the commissioners. Need to find a way to promote pickleball and awareness to the community leaders.
- Carol Dodd will have an article in her neighborhood letter about “Hobbies and Happiness” she mentions AAPA and Pickleball. Carol Dodd sent a letter to implement pickleball as wellness for older people.
- Council on Aging wants information about Pickleball and seniors
- Looking into the cost of renting courts at Bishop Park and Satterfield. Only courts that can be rented are Satterfield but they haven’t got back on the costs. The Satterfield courts are in pretty rough condition.
- DUPR request from Michelle Milliman DUPR requires Michelle to charge and it can be as little as \$1 for registration and \$1 per event. Michelle can go ahead and do this and doesn’t need any approval from the board. It’s up to her what she charges and AAPA doesn’t need to be involved.

Pickled Peach tournament.

Walter Strauss says he has some people that might want to help run some tournaments. Janelle heard from Danny Bryant is including Brandon Shook about hosting a pickleball tournament spring 2024 in the new classic center if we want to do that. Need to have a director and somebody that wants to understand the software.

Is this something we want to do or is there no benefit? Classic Center helped a lot and helped with advertising. A meeting will be set up with Janelle, Tom and Ian as soon as possible to discuss the potential of having a spring tournament in 2024.

Please check the website to see what we need added – one thing to add it the list of certified instructors, Tom – level 2, Ray – level 1, will ask Marc Gallant also.

Possibly set up a free clinic with member instructors for members only – perk of membership. Kevin will check with Tom to see how many people he could handle. Boys and Girls club would be a good site. Jennings Mill is a possibility. Need to see what would be charged, Kevin will ask Tom.

Kudo’s to Polly and her assistants for a well-managed Facebook page

Meeting adjourned Motion Ian, second Vickie