PTPC Board Meeting

February 8, 2022

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm by President, Lynn Pierle at the Port Townsend Community Center. Present were Jim Dow, Jim Geren (phoned in), Patti Rowdabaugh, Eric Seder, Sharlene Shiroma and Craig Walls. Absent were Kim Anderson and Jeannie Ramsey.

The minutes of the November 18th Board Meeting were submitted and corrected online. Eric moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Craig seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Officers' Reports

Treasurer - Craig Walls

Craig reported on Nov. 18th we had \$6,437.50 in our checking account. Since Nov. 18th we had 11 new memberships via PayPal and 1 new membership via personal check. We had total expenses for the last 3 months of \$902.25. Total in our checking account as of Feb. 8th is \$6,421.50.

A full treasurer's report is available from Craig upon request.

Lynn showed the Board a mock-up of the ad for the PTPC that is going into the PTHS Yearbook.

Facilities Committee -

Eric Seder - Courthouse Courts Update/Feedback

Regarding the Courthouse courts, Eric talked to Matt Tyler on the option of doing a 3rd court and the county is still strongly willing to do it. The money is not a problem, but Matt is tied up with other projects that come before working on the 3rd court project. It most likely will not happen this year. He really appreciates us helping him with planning projects well ahead and would like us to give him suggestions on what projects we would like to have done at the Courthouse. For example, putting barriers between the courts and is there a practical way to do it that still leaves the ability to walk between the courts? Would we like soundproofing and windscreens? Eric and Jim Dow will get together and come up with some ideas and present them at the next Board meeting.

Jim Dow asked about repairing the surface. Eric talked to Matt about it and the contractor is supposed to come back in the Spring and take a look at it and see what can be done and whether they will take responsibility to do it without being paid.

Eric mentioned there is a couple that are new as full-time residents to the area and have a history to this area. Their names are Lisa and Dave McCammon and have recently joined PTPC. They are interested in building a membership facility near Port Townsend for indoor pickleball. They are thinking about 3 levels of membership to play. The more you pay the higher your membership level and the more you can play. They are emphatic that it has to be kept reasonable and fair and something that would be inviting for everyone to play. Right now they are running into zoning problems. They are quite determined to do this project and would welcome anything we can do to help them or think of any objections that we might know of. Lynn mentioned this would achieve our objective in the Strategic Plan Goal No. 2 of having a facility for indoor pickleball play to be used for club members and the public.

Jim Dow mentioned the Discovery Bay Golf Course is planning to be developed. Lynn approached them about doing an indoor facility and received no response, but maybe Lisa and Dave can talk to the manager about the prospect of having pickleball courts there. The Golf Course already has a place zoned for recreation.

Lynn Pierle – Mountain View Project Update

On the Mountain View Project, Steven contacted Lynn and said we could possibly get a meeting with the City Council on Feb. 22nd. That would be a longshot, due to the fact that we still haven't worked out the Donor Agreement with the City. If we can't get on the calendar on the 22nd, then it would be at the next City Council meeting which is on March 7th.

New Business

Bookkeeper – Patti Rowdabaugh

Patti mentioned as we launch into our Capital Campaign, we need to get a bookkeeper to get our bookkeeping in order. We can see if there is someone in our membership that would do it. Need to purchase a program for accounting. If there is no one in our membership, then we should hire a bookkeeper for a couple hours a month or maybe even quarterly. We need our books in order so we can present financial statements to whoever asks.

Schedules - Jim Dow/Lynn Pierle

Lynn mentioned the new contact person for the Y is James Cook. The Y is going to take away the Wednesday pickleball sessions for running kids' programs on that day, but they would offer us another time. Patti suggested asking for evening sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lynn will also ask for noon to 4pm on Saturdays. For the level of play for these sessions, we will have one 2-hr. session for intermediate/advanced and another 2-hr. session will be open play.

Eric asked Lynn if she knows what the Y thinks about how this program is going. She feels that they think it is going as well as expected. Some of the numbers are down due to the latest covid upsurge, but they seem to be happy about it. Also, Lynn mentioned we have to remind them that we don't want to do this program beyond May. If they want to run the program on their own, then they can.

Jim Dow asked on the High School Courts, we had a schedule for open play and scheduled play. It seems right now that is no longer the case. As the weather gets better, should we go back to that schedule and try to enforce it? Patti suggests we should not enforce it right away and see how it goes. If it becomes a problem then we can step in and reinstate the schedule.

Lynn asked Jim Dow if he can see if Logan, the PE Teacher from the High School, has any plans to take back the tennis court we use for pickleball in the Spring.

Jim Dow replaced a few nets, repaired the lock box and replaced the lock at Mountain View. He also suggested giving recognition in the Blast to Mike McCoy and Jim Maupin for their volunteering of the Beginner Lessons at the Y and to Stan Jonasson for doing a great job on organizing Social Saturdays at the High School.

Capital Campaign – Lynn Pierle

Lynn stated we have a committee for the Capital Campaign who consists of herself, Joel Janetski and Fred Weinmann. All the pledges will go to Joel. He will handle all of the data on an excel spreadsheet, tracking who has pledged, how much, what level and when they actually pay.

Events – Jeannie Ramsey/Lynn Pierle

Lynn would like to have a Launch Party for the Capital Campaign. But we can't do this till we actually have a site from the City.

Action Items from the Strategic Plan – Lynn Pierle

Lynn stated that we need to start gearing up as a club to have programs, lessons, tournaments and fun events. We need to show our members that we are a valuable asset for them as we are trying to raise some money. Goals 1 and 2 of the Strategic Plan are well in hand by the Facilities Committee who are Eric, Jim Dow and Lynn. There are some other things that we could be doing for Goals 3, 4 and 5. Does any of us want to spearhead those goals? Lynn put together a list of the names of potential volunteers that signed up at the special meeting in October. She made a list of what we need volunteers for and sent it out to them asking for help and has not received any responses. She will start attending Social Saturdays. That would be a good time to meet the members and talk about some of these ideas and items we need help on. Maybe some of the members would be willing to help if they knew what is needed.

The 3rd Goal of the Strategic Plan is to promote pickleball to the community by creating awareness of the sport and its benefits. This involves establishing a relationship with the local media. Having stories about the club in the Leader, doing press releases with the local radio station, having a booth at the Farmer's Market and advertising our tournaments and events when we do have them. One thing we have done in promoting the sport to the community is having a website and a Facebook page. The 2nd thing is to generate interest across ages and demographics. This involves public speaking at various civic and business organizations. One idea is to appoint a school liaison who would work with the middle school and high school in seeing how we can help generate interest in pickleball. Maybe have some of the members go to the schools and teach the kids how to play. We need one of our members to facilitate it. It would be helpful if that school liaison was a former educator, but it doesn't have to be. The 3rd thing is informing visitors about special events, but we don't have any right now. When we do, we can inform them through our communications person. The 4th one is to promote a strong club image that will attract interest and generate membership growth. What benefits can we offer to make the club more attractive for members to join. There is a list of possibilities in the Strategic Plan. We need someone to be the point person to come up with ideas to make membership more attractive. We need to create incentives to be a member. For example, if we have a tournament, the members would not have to pay as much as non-members to play in a tournament. Jim Dow mentioned that providing lessons and ladders will help, too.

Patti/Lynn have suggested revising the membership form to add a space, that is optional, for what their profession was/is, skills set, areas of interest, areas of expertise, i.e., what areas they would be interested in volunteering or contribute to the club. Jim Geren suggested to have the revised form ready by May 1st. The start of the new fiscal year membership starts around then. He will update the form. He asked the Board if there are any suggestions to send it to him.

Lynn mentioned we need to figure out ways to make money on an ongoing basis. Maybe have a contribution box on Social Saturdays, but then someone has to be responsible for taking the money in the box and keeping track of the amount. We also don't have merchandise which we can do to make money for the club to put into our "capital developments". Patti mentioned that we need to have things printed with our logo for the donors, like pickleball bags, paddle cases, water bottles. Once we get them printed, we can have them available for sale. Lynn would like to have some merchandise on hand, whether it be name badges, towels, water bottles or something else to sell and we can put the money into a reserve fund for what we need.

Jim Dow mentioned, on potential future projects, doing lines for the tennis court at the High School. This might be a nice thing to do. Lynn thinks that would be a good idea. Jim will pursue it with the High School.

Jim Dow moved to have the meeting adjourned. Sharlene seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharlene Shiroma