

Minutes of the Meeting of the Golden Racquets
Board of Directors
January 23, 2018
King's Park Library, Springfield, VA

Present:

Ed Grose, President	Fred Hart, Ops & Planning	Howard Ho, Social Chair
Ed Byrne, Liaison to YMCA	Bob Dineen, CIO	Zdenek Denmark Social
Tom Burroughs, Rating	Joe Wittling CIO	Claudia Steichen, Secretary
CJ Dieteman, Past Pres.	Connie Dineen, Newsletter	
Laura Riesenberg, VP	Al McFarland, Treasurer	

Absent:

Lindsay Wozniak, Website Mgr. Bala Balakrishnan, Caring Ellen Johnson, Membership
Steve Mateo, Rating

President, Ed Grose, opened the meeting promptly at 10:00 a.m. Board members voted to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2017 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Al pronounced the treasury as stable and balance is similar to this time last year. As of 1/23/2018, the balance was \$19,381.75. Winter and Spring court time has been paid for all clubs, New Years' Day party expenses have been paid, and 2017 donations to the County Park Authority has been made. An auditor for 2017 is needed. Al will file tax forms before the due date of May 15.

Getting to Know You: Ed has initiated a topic at Board Meetings for members to get to know each other better. Today's topic was: what was your most enjoyable vacation.

President's Report: New members to the board were introduced: Zdenek Denmark, Social co-chair; Joe Wittling, CIO co-chair; and Bala Balakrishnan, Caring chair.

Vice-President's Report: No report from Laura

Past President's Report: No report from CJ

Caring Committee Report: Bala Balakrishnan has taken over as Chair of the Caring Committee. Outgoing chair members, Jack and Alle Cogdell sent a report of 2017 to all board members via email. Between 1/29/17 and 12/30/17 they sent 34 cards and three more have been sent during January of 2018.

CIO Report: Bob Dineen reported that Joe Wittling is actively assisting him. Golden Racquets membership stands at 349 members. 23 players are under 3.5, 128 players are 3.5-3.7, 110 players are 3.8, 81 players are above 3.8, and 7 are non-players.

Membership Report: Ellen Johnson was absent and is looking for a replacement on the board. Due to the fluctuating closing and opening of membership, a new person needs to have flexibility.

Ops & Planning Report: Fred is also looking for a replacement. He reports that these few months have been quiet. He has sent one letter to a member who was getting substitutes more than half of the time. This has taken up a slot which others are waiting for.

Rating Report: The Captain's/Rating Committee Meeting was held earlier this month. At the meeting, seven people had their ratings increased and four had a decrease. Tom has one person from the YMCA to rate yet.

Social Chair Report: Howard said that replies from members to attend the New Years' Day Party were slow for the four courts which were reserved. The courts were ultimately filled, but not in a timely manner. Thirty-two members sent a RSVP to attend PJ Skidoos and twenty showed up. The next party is April 21st. Five courts have been reserved. The new co-chair, Zdenek, will manage the April party.

Webmaster Report: Lindsay was absent. Changes to the website are needed.

Liaison to YMCA Report: no special report.

Newsletter Chair: Connie asked for articles for the newsletter due in February.

Old Business: Ed G and Laura and Ed B continue to be in negotiation with Carlo at the YMCA for the summer venues. Four of the YMCA courts have some air-conditioning and Golden Racquets' members will be able to use those courts. There are reported plans for the YMCA to buy air-conditioning units from Four Seasons when the later closes, but there is some uncertainty regarding when these will be available.

The Maryland venue proposed by Jim Morrow at the last board meeting will not happen this summer.

New Business: Tom asked the Board members if adding a second venue at Mason District Park would be a good idea. This will be addressed again at the April meeting.

Bob Dineen mentioned the Renaissance as a possibility for Golden Racquet's play for the fall season. They have 3 courts.

Joe Wittling will look into Worldgate to see if they have courts available.

Nottaway Park in Vienna and Bready Park in Herndon were also mentioned as possible outdoor venues for the summer season. A look at the demographics will be done to see how many players live in those areas.

Ed Grose and Laura attended a Arlington County Board meeting regarding the YMCA's petition to build a seven story building. Ed spoke on behalf of senior tennis players about the lack of county tennis courts. The County Board approved the plan.

The last item discussed was the \$45 yearly membership fee the YMCA charges Golden Racquet's members. Substitutes for the venues at YMCA are charged the yearly fee if they have subbed more than four times. This has proven to be problematic for the Golden Racquets organization to manage as the YMCA membership dates are not synchronized for our members. The majority of the board members thought that the YMCA collecting the \$45 per year would be a better solution. Ed G, Laura, and Ed B will be talking to the Y and will come back to Board members for a vote by email. Ed Grose will write an article for the Newsletter regarding the collecting of the \$45 yearly fee.

The meeting was adjourned just before noon. Next Board meeting is April 10th 2018.

Respectfully,

Claudia Steichen