

Minutes of GR (GR) Board of Director's Meeting
Kings Park Library, Springfield, VA
November 20, 2019

Officers present:

Tom Burroughs, President
Laura Riesenburt, Vice President
Al McFarland, Treasurer
Connie Dineen, Recording Secretary

Officers Absent: None

Committee Chairs Present:

Bob Dineen, Special Assistant
Connie Dineen, Newsletter Editor
Dave Fleming, Operations & Planning Committee
Joanne Hensley, Web Master
Howard Ho, Social Committee
Marion MacRae, Caring Committee
Steve Mateo, Ratings Committee
Joe Wittling, Chief Information Officer

Committee Chairs Absent:

Adele Neuberg, Membership Committee

Officer's Reports:

- **President:** Tom brought up the issue of the low attendance at recent Annual Meeting held in October. In the past, the Annual Meeting was held on a day when there were no GR venues being held, but with the expanded number of venues currently offered, there was no day of the week venue-free. It was felt that the low attendance was due to this fact, which prevented some members from attending the meeting. Tom suggested that the day of the week on which the Annual Meeting is held be different each year so that the same group does not always miss. After some discussion, it was decided that no decision would be made on this topic until data regarding fall 2020 venues is available. At that time, a day on which there are no venues will be selected for the Annual Meeting. If it happens that there are no venue-free days available, the day with the fewest venues in operation will be chosen for the Annual Meeting.
- **Vice President:** No report.
- **Treasurer:**
 - Copies of the November 2019 treasurer's report (attachment #1) were distributed. Al stated that the target amount for Golden Racquet's net assets was \$19,000.00, and that currently that amount had been surpassed and that (current) net assets totals \$19,962.52.
 - In order to have a more accurate accounting of finances and membership, an email was sent to all "members" who were arrears in their dues asking them to pay the dues. Anyone who did not pay their dues were purged from the membership rolls and from GRSys.
 - Al stated that there is continuous "adjustment" of finances based on a variety of factors. Two such factors include (1) some members apply for and pay for a venue that is over-filled, and (2) members are sometimes later added to a different venue with a different fee. These actions result in monies being both refunded and deposited at various times in the year.
 - All the necessary IRS paperwork has been completed and submitted.
 - Bob asked Al how one would find the treasurer's materials, and if it were possible to "clean up" Drop Box to ensure space is available. Bob stated that currently there is no charge to GR for the use of Drop Box, but if the storage space available is used, there

will be a charge. Al explained how and where the treasurer's materials can be found, and stated that he would investigate the possibility of "cleaning up" treasurer's text files.

- Recording Secretary: No report.

Committee Reports:

- Caring: Marion distributed copies of the Caring Committee Report (attachment #2), showing to whom cards have been sent (and the reason for the card) since she became the chair of the committee. She asked to be kept informed of members who needed to be sent a card. She also stated that she is using an old roster to obtain the addresses for those to whom she sends a card, as the current roster does not display the address of members.
- Chief Information Officer:
 - Joe distributed copies of an analysis of information designed to show a variety of information (attachment #3), including the percentage of GR members vs. the percentage of GR members who play tennis and the number of venues available for specific rating levels. This analysis prompted discussion of ideas to be considered for future decision making about venue assignments and number of venues for specific ratings.
 - The question of "In what direction are we headed regarding summer venues?" was raised. The following points were made:
 - ✓ consider increasing the number of summer venues from 10 to 12 (two courts were added in summer 2019 on Saturdays);
 - ✓ determining the number of courts/venues should be based on the principles of "supply and demand";
 - ✓ send an "interest survey" to GR members regarding, among other things, their preferred venue and day of the week -- Joe, Dave, Tom, and Al will work on the survey.
 - There are now 8 regular players for pickleball at Burke Racquet Club. It is hoped that in summer 2020 there will be enough interest to have one indoor and one outdoor pickleball court.
- Newsletter: Connie asked that articles for the newsletter be sent to her no later than December 10, 2019. She has received one item, and Tom, Joanne, and Dave each indicated that they would submit an item for the newsletter.
- Operations & Planning:
 - Dave stated that the venue captains are doing a great job, and he thanks them for their commitment and work.
 - Dave would like to improve the "sub process" as there are a few people who chronically ask for a sub, and that at some venues it has been a challenge to get an appropriately rated sub. Next year, he would like to suggest to the "chronic sub-seekers" that they play as a sub only. A suggestion was made to share sub lists among other venues with the same rating as a way to increase the number of possible subs for those venues.
 - Tennis balls for all the venues this year resulted in an over-buy. Those extra tennis balls will be used to supply the 2020 summer venues. Dave stated that the tennis balls, purchased through Fairfax Racquet Club (FRC), arrived very promptly. At the next purchase time, he would like to ask the venue captains to pick up the tennis balls from FRC for their venue rather than him taking all the balls to his home and then redistributing them. His plan is to arrange a 2-3 day pick-up schedule for the

convenience of the captains, and that he or a designee would be at FRC to oversee the pick-up of tennis balls by the venue captains.

- Ratings: Steve stated that a room for the venue captains and the ratings committee meeting has not yet been obtained as the dates requested were not available at the library. He and Connie will resolve this at the library information desk following the meeting.
- Social:
 - Howard stated that four courts have been reserved for GR at FRC for New Year's Day, January 1, 2020, from 3:00-5:00pm. There was some discussion about food for the event -- should it be a meal or just snacks, should it be catered or pot luck, should a reservation (following the tennis) be made at P.J. Skidoos, etc. The consensus was that food at FRC should be snacks provided by those who attend, and that GR will provide the beverages. Howard will ask those who plan to attend to indicate what snack they will bring. A dinner reservation will be made for those who commit to going to P.J. Skidoos following the tennis. Dinner at P.J. Skidoos will be at each individual's expense.
 - Bob reminded Howard that play pairings for this event needed to be arranged. Bob agreed to make the name tags for those attending, and Joe agreed to make the pairings for tennis.
- Special Assistant: Bob reminded those present that although he enjoys doing the tasks to which he is assigned (most having to do with technology), he believes that he should not be the only one who knows how to do them. He asks that the Board continue to look for someone to be trained to assist and eventually take over. Joe responded that he, Howard Ho, and Stu Rabinowitz have discussed how the three of them can assist with these tasks and be a technology back-up.
- Web Master: Joanne encouraged everyone to look at the website for information they may need.

Announcements/Comments:

- Joe asked the Board to consider creating a way to recognize those members who have made significant contributions to GR over a period of time. Currently, there is recognition for "Member of the Year" but it has always been assumed that recognition is for contributions made in a specific year. Joe's suggestion would encompass a much longer time span and could possibly be called "Lifetime Achievement Award."
- Connie suggested that criteria for the "Member of the Year" award be established, as there currently are none.

Next Meeting: No date for the next meeting was given, but members of the Board will be notified when one is chosen.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Dineen
Recording Secretary