

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association

Board Minutes – April 6, 2022

Call to Order – Brian Bernard

Attendance – Board members: Brian Bernard, Steve Craig, Pam Haley, Albert Hardison, Chris Dudley, Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell. Others: Rhonda Rubben, Hassan Abbas, Judit Castillo, Kaye Cochran, Bob Patterson, Randy Rossi, Amy Dudley, Kirita Windham, Michael Schaff, Rachel Morgan, Joe Mero (SPAR), Antwan Butler.

March minutes were approved. Motion by Chris Dudley, second by Albert Hardison.

Executive Board Reports

Treasurer – Steve Craig

- Assets: \$ 230,000, including \$ 159,249 cash, \$ 70,785 RJ Investments.
- Liabilities: \$ 17,030, including \$ 1,548 credit card, \$ 15,481 other liabilities.
- Income for February: \$ 50,718, including \$ 12,038 project income, \$ 14,756 fundraisers, \$7,350 Community Partners, \$ 7,783 grants, \$ 8,790 misc. income/interest.
- Expenses for February: \$ 30,452, including \$ 24,007 tournament/project expenses, \$ 6,445 general expenses.
- Net Income as of March 31, 2022: \$ 20,266
- Balance Sheet and P & L by MTH YTD are available for review.

Rhonda Rubben - \$2,584 income from Bill Oliver tournament and \$500 NET income from 70s. Community Partner to date is \$7500 with a 2022 goal of \$10,000.

Treasurer report was approved. Motion by Albert Hardison, second by Bob Patterson.

President Report – Brian Bernard

- Court resurfacing update
 - Weather and other jobs have been an issue with court resurfacing.
 - Contractor is scheduled to be at SHills this week.
 - Meeting tomorrow to establish point person at each facility to simplify communication process between contractor and facilities.
 - SHills could take 4 weeks to complete.
 - Cockrell, QTC, AB Palmer will follow.
- Update on Adam Young
 - Hospitalized in critical position with heart issues.
 - Slight improvement after surgery.
- LTA will provide financial support for each CTA to hire an Executive Director (ED).
 - Requesting CTA approve \$ 25,000 from CTA funds (LTA will provide \$ 25,000) for this position. Approved. Motion by Chris Dudley, second by Albert Hardison.

- Rhonda Rubben has agreed to serve in an interim capacity for 2 years until a permanent ED can be hired and, if possible, work with the permanent hire until the end of the 2-year period.
 - Mission statement and by-laws will have to be updated.
 - Rhonda Rubben will not be an employee of the Board, but will be a contract managing consultant.
 - Rhonda will take the vacant Board member filling the remaining available spot.
- Approved. Motion by Albert Hardison, second by Steve Craig.

USTA/STA/LTA – Grady Wilson

- John Callen, ED for Southern USTA for 33 years, passed away this week, before his induction to STA Hall of Fame.
- USTA National Conference in Orlando had 850 attendees.
- STA conference is in Atlanta in 2 weeks. Mike McNulty will be inducted in STA Hall of Fame. SALT ladies will be there to receive an award.

Rhonda Rubben – CGPG guidelines should be finalized at STA conference.

Public and Private Facilities – PRO Updates

BTC –

- 48 in Off-campus PE program.
- Tennis Apprentice begins tomorrow night with 80 participants.
- 16 in Red Ball program.
- Airline, Parkway, Benton, and Haughton tennis teams use BTC for practice.
- BTC is hosting high school matches, and BLT ladies have provided snacks for some of these.
- Todd is coaching Providence Classical Academy tennis team for 2nd year, with about 40 players on jr. varsity and varsity teams.

POTC –

- Was the host facility for the 5th Annual CTA (Bill Oliver) tournament, with 160 players.
- Will host tournament for Lance Dreyer this weekend with 136 players.
- 120 in JD program.
- 70 in Off-campus PE.
- 1st JTT matched will begin April 23rd, with 8 teams, 5 divisions, and 56 players. Fall league is planned.
- Red Ball will begin again in the fall.

QTC –

- Michael Schaff has been helping Hassan with JTT.
- 60+ in after-school program.
- 9 in Off-campus PE.
- 72 in Tennis Apprentice.
- Working with the CTA, LTA, and Todd Killen to provide stand-alone Tennis Apprentice program sponsored for Oschner for their employees and families.

- Chris will be Chairman of LTA Pro Relations committee and will travel throughout LA to connect pros to area CTAs.
- Spring Fling mixer is Sunday with activities for adults and children.
- Querbes Cup is April 29th.

Cockrell –

- Dwayne Allen is working with Evangel team.
- Cockrell is hosting area high school matches.
- Courts are full in afternoons.

Rhonda Rubben - Southern Hills and Cockrell are scheduled this year for resurfacing of courts and new lights. RFPs will reopen in March. Interviews are scheduled for late April or early May, with a goal of having new pros in place in by June. Jill Zimmer is interim pro at SHills, and Dwayne Allen is interim pro at Cockrell.

ERCC –

- Tom Chicoine has begun working as new pro.
- Tennis and pickleball programs are ongoing.

Natchitoches –

- Level 6 tournament had 31 players.
- High school invitational tournament had 71 players.
- 8-10 in Tennis Apprentice.
- JD, school tennis, and adult leagues are in progress.

SHills –

- Still waiting for courts to be repaired.
- Team tennis in progress.
- Hosting Off-campus PE.
- 20-40 involved in pickleball Tues-Th.
- Jill attended pickleball training in Utah.

STCC –

- Mint Julep is April 21-23.
- Capital campaign is going well.
- 6 week JTT begins April 11.
- Summer sports camp is planned, with information on website.
- Member-member pickleball tournament was packed with players.
- Next open tournament is May 14.
- Two UTR tournaments are planned for May 6 and May 21.

Committee Reports

Outreach & Special Programs/Grants - Rhonda Rubben

- National Tennis Month funds for events. \$250/event, with April 10 deadline to apply.
- NJTL grant (Serving Up Success) – for underserved or under-resourced children.

- \$25,000 grant, with focus on Cockrell and children in community park programs. Will also have small programs partnering with various organizations at Creswell/SALT/VOA and EB Stoner/CMHS/LSUMed, and possibly Barksdale this summer/fall.
 - Partnership with city hiring program to secure help for pros to run program.
 - Two morning sessions at no cost to participants.
 - Afternoon sessions will include advanced program at low cost for 10-15 children. Award point system will be used to supplement costs of upcoming programs.
 - Fall will include JTT tournaments and possible travel opportunities.
 - Including other funds and in-kind donations, total program value is \$114,000.
 - Goal is for Cockrell to become NJTL primary campus.
 - Executive Board reviewed grant application and approved financial support as part of budget.
- \$1000 JTT grant received.
 - \$1000 STA Foundation grant received.
 - CTA/SALT/VOA program ends April 28, final event will be at QTC.
 - LSU Med student program ends first week of May, with a party for EB Stoner students.
 - Tennis Closet is going well, with \$300 + from 70s tournament. More clothes are needed.
 - Tennis scholarship program is open until April 30, with 2 current applications for 1-time scholarship and 0 current applications for renewable 4-year scholarship.
 - 12-month high school assistance program will provide funds to reimburse players for expenses incurred or pay for future expenses related to tennis programs.

State Tournaments – Rhonda Rubben

- 40 & Over Even State tournament is May 13-16.
- 350 participants expected.
- CTA will provide sunshades as the player gift.
- POTC will be host facility. BTC and, if needed, other facilities will be used.
- Marty Engle is new State Director.
- Adult 18 & Over Even State tournament is June 10-13.

Marketing – Rhonda Rubben

- Audrey Robinson will attend CTA meetings once a quarter.
- Let Rhonda and Audrey know about any events that need to be posted on Fb or otherwise publicized.

Local League Coordinator Reports – Rhonda Rubben

- Tri-level league is up 1 team.
- POTC hosted a draft party and added 4 teams and 56 players for 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 level.
- 243 registered.
- Report is available for review.

Coordinator's Reports-Community Coordinators' Report – Kaye Cochran

- Only 16 participants are registered in Serve Tennis so far this year.
- Need pros to compile a list of children's names and other essential information for CGPG.
- All instructors must be currently Safe-Play certified.

- QTC TA party is April 22, and BTC TA party is April 28.
- Report is available for review.

Other New Business

- Brian thanked Joe Mero (SPAR) for attending.
- Antwan Butler was recognized. Three of his sons have played in JTT tournaments representing Cockrell.

Meeting was adjourned. Motion by Albert Hardison, second by Bob Patterson.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Haley, Secretary