

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association

Board Minutes – November 1, 2023

Call to Order – Brian Bernard

Attendance – Board members: Brian Bernard, Steve Craig, Pam Haley, Albert Hardison, Chris Dudley, Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell, Willie Paz, Rhonda Rubben, Brian Furqueron, Ken Meyers. Others: Rachel Morgan, Amy Dudley, Marilyn Meyers, Hassan Abbas, Bob Patterson, Kaye Cochran, Jay Boyd, Calvin Baker, Diana Sanchez.

October minutes were approved. Motion by Grady Wilson, second by Rhonda Rubben.

Executive Board Reports

President Report – Brian Bernard

- Serve It Forward November food drive. Flyers available for all facilities. Collected goods due on or before Nov. 20th and will be given to local churches for distribution to needy families. CTA will provide bread and is seeking donations of turkeys.
- Community partnerships total \$7450 plus in-kind donations. Need 4 Board members for 2024 committee to seek community partner donations.

NJTL Report – Rhonda Rubben

- \$ 25,380 in expenses, \$ 2300 over budget. Need additional \$ 3000 to finish our programs.
- Project Santa Claus mixer Dec. 9th at POTC will support police/fire department toy drive. Flyers available for all facilities. Seeking lunch sponsors. Salvation Army Angel Tree at QTC.
- 100+ kids served at fall break camps. Thanks to Grady, Philip, and Cotter for helping at AB Palmer.
- Winter break camp planned for after Christmas at CTC, SHTC, and ABP.
- Meeting soon to set up BAFB program. Will seek LTA Innovative Grant funding.
- Need volunteer help for program at Broadmoor. Service hours available for students.
- Adaptive program in progress at SHTC Rec Center on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.
- Looking for stringer for NJTL programs.

Treasurer Report - Steve Craig

- Assets: \$ 221,117, including \$ 140,876 cash (\$23,251 restricted), \$ 74,622 Merrill Lynch.
- Liabilities: \$ 2,581, including \$ 374 credit card.
- Total income through Oct 2023: \$ 199,178, including \$ 15,328 restricted, \$ 151,191 projects/State tournaments.
- Total expenses through Oct 2023: \$ 164,647, including \$5328 restricted.
- Net Unrestricted Income YTD: \$ 29,204.
- Balance Sheet and P & L by MTH YTD available for review.
- 990 informational tax return is ready to file. Need Board approval. Motion by Albert Hardison, second by Grady Wilson.

USTA/STA/LTA – Grady Wilson, Jay Boyd

- LTA annual meeting Dec. 2nd, with LTA workshops and Hall of Fame banquet on Friday. The board is welcome to attend.
- Attending Super Bowl committee meeting soon to discuss reviving Super Bowl tennis tournament.
- Successful tournament in Baton Rouge. Only 1 Louisiana junior player made the draw.
- Changes incoming in LTA nomination process, including additional detail about involvement at the local level for officer candidates.

Steve Craig introduced Shreveport police officer Calvin Baker and Shreveport firefighter Diana Sanchez, President, and Vice President, respectively, of Operation Santa Claus program which is almost 40 years old and provides toys for children who belong to families in need. Monetary donations or toys are due on or before Dec. 18th. The set up will be after Thanksgiving near Home Zone at Greenwood and Pines Rd. Goal is to raise \$ 5000. Amy Bowman spearheaded the CTA/Operation Santa Claus partnership.

Public and Private Facilities – PRO Updates

BTC –

- Hosted Providence Christian Academy fundraiser tournament Oct. 20-21. Raised \$ 50,000 for PCA tennis program, with 120 players and 70 kids in junior round robin on Friday afternoon.
- State 40+ combo tournament this past weekend, with 240+ players at BTC and Cockrell. Weather issues at the beginning, but Marty did a great job with schedule, and Ken and Marilyn did a great job getting courts ready at Cockrell. Out of 9 divisions, 4 local teams finished in first place.
- BTC 40+ 9.0 team will compete at Nationals in Surprise, AZ this weekend. The team appreciates financial support from NWLATA, LTA, and STA..

POTC –

- Hosted Shreveport Energy tournament this past weekend, with 168 players.
- Renovations for Loser's Buy is almost complete.
- Second round of JTT finished in Oct. POTC hosted 12s and 14s on Oct. 2nd, STTC hosted 18 and under Oct. 21st. The final round will be at Cockrell on Nov. 11th and will determine winners. Awards and lunch after.
- For the Love of Medicine mixer this weekend, with 75 attending for pickleball, tennis, or social.
- Calvary tournament Nov. 10-12 with 40 players.
- Level 5 tournament Nov. 18-20. Sign-up deadline is Nov. 10th.

. QTC –

- TA in progress; Step-up clinic begins Saturday, Nov. 11th. Will offer Saturday clinic and one evening/week. About 50 participants.
- 17 lights are partially or completely out. Also, an issue with a breaker box. Waiting to hear from SPAR.
- Was ill during most of Premier Facility leadership summit at USTA National Campus Oct. 23-25, so Amy attended workshops.
- TA party is next Monday, 6-7 for tennis and gumbo at 7. The board is invited.

Cockrell–

- H/A unit went out in Sept. Waiting for a response from City.
- Fall Fest events included about 100 participants over 4-5 weekends.
- Hosted 6.5 women at 40+ combo tournament.
- The last day of TA is Monday, Nov. 6th.
- Hosting JTT Nov. 11th.
- Personal testimonial from Ken about the benefits of sustainable programs for under resourced kids that will expand summer tennis programs to include school-year programs. Thanks to LTA, CTA, NJTL for promoting tennis.

Natchitoches -

- Ongoing adult Monday and Tuesday night leagues are results of TA programs.
- TA ends Monday, Nov, 6th and step up league begins.
- Ongoing programs with juniors.
- Level 7 planned for this weekend, but currently not enough participants.
- Level 6 tournaments are planned for Nov. 25-26 and Dec. 9-10.

STTC -

- Sept. 22nd UTR tournament was successful, and another is planned.
- Thanksgiving camp planned.

SHills –

- Work with 2 high schools 5 days/week and several middle schools 3 days/week.
- 20+ private lessons/week and over half are with youth.

Committee Reports – Rhonda Rubben

- Received 2 LTA awards: CTA of the Year, and SPAR Parks and Recreation.
- Waiting to hear on possible sectional tournament for 2024.
- 40+ combo went well.
- JTT is going well.
- TA is growing.
- Meeting for spring captains will be held after Thanksgiving.

Local League Coordinator Reports – Rhonda Rubben

- 428 more league participants than in 2023.

Other New Business –

- Increase Facebook “likes” to 2000.
- Need additional community coordinators, paid contract positions.
- DeeDee Platt will begin working with Rhonda to split responsibilities of ED position.

The meeting was adjourned. Motion Rhonda Rubben, second by Bob Patterson.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Haley, Secretary