

**Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association
Board Minutes – February 7, 2024**

Call to Order – Brian Bernard

Attendance – Ashley Price - Board members: Brian Bernard, Rhonda Rubben, Ashley Price, Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell, Chris Dudley, Matt Coerver, Ken Meyers, Katherine Arterberry. Others: Rodric Arterberry, Marilyn Meyers, Hassan Abbas, Therina Steenkamp, Kaye Cochran, Ruston Board: Bobby Goulart and Danny Richardson

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

Executive Board Reports

President Report – Brian Bernard

- Welcome new board member Katherine Arterberry - motion by Rhonda, and second Chris Dudley, approved unanimously.
- 2024 BOND ISSUE -
 - City Council - Feb 27th, 3pm Gov Plaza and public vote on April 27th
 - Under Parks - Removing Querbes pool and old rec center. Building a community center attached to the golf course – this would open land for additional courts at some point.
 - AC Steere resurfacing courts for tennis and pickleball. Trees removed.
 - Southern Hills - additional 2 bank court for multiuse for both tennis/pickleball
 - Cockrell parking lot resurfaced and Cockrell and Southern Hills pool being improved.
 - The mayor is coming to the next board meeting, March 6th - get the word out about the bond. Additionally helping Police and Firefighter, road improvements, etc. Get the public and tennis community informed.
 - April 27th need people to vote yes.
- Community partners
 - Depend on these folks tremendously.
 - Raised \$3000 to date and \$600 in Gift Cards for drawings/hit for prizes
- Bold tournament
 - Need sponsors and items for tournament.
 - Volunteers to help run the tournament, please sign up via JotForm
 - Food sponsor –Working on food sponsors, have secured the beer sponsor.
 - Please prompt to friends, players to sign up for the tournament.
 - Information on sign up, volunteering and donating on website and FB page

Treasurer's Report - Rhonda Rubben

- Assets: \$ 225104, including \$ 149156 cash (\$23,269 restricted), \$ 75,947 Merrill Lynch.
- Liabilities: \$ 2988, including \$ 781 credit card.
- Total income for Jan 2024: \$ 24449, includes \$18468 for spring league, \$3100 Community Partner, and \$2475 Tennis Apprentice
- Total expenses for Jan 2024: \$ 6890, including \$ 680 CPA bill for 2023, \$740 Jr Program Contract and \$596 captain GC.
- Net Unrestricted Income YTD: \$ 17559.
- Balance Sheet and P & L by MTH YTD available for review.

USTA/LTA/STA Reports: Grady Wilson

- Recognize the president of Southern had cancer 10 years ago. Went back for a checkup and cancer has come back. Had surgery last week. Keep him in thoughts and prayers.

- Southern grant \$300,000 available would like to be something that can be repeated from state to state.

NJTL/Outreach Report – Rhonda Rubben

- **USTA Foundation Grant 2024** will apply for \$25-30,000 hoping to get \$20,000. Should open around mid-March.
 - LTA grant request for new BAFB and Bossier Outreach programs
 - Southern grant for new programs as well
 - Outreach community meeting tomorrow.
- **Broadmoor/VOA/SALT/CTA** after school program – starts March 7th Thursdays from 4p-5p. The kids will be rallying. Last program on the 25th at Querbes.
 - Offer 3-6 scholarships for the kids of VOA to go to a summer camp.
- **VOA at Bossier Light house**
 - Onsite Jan 25th about 24 kids
 - Start a program at BTC once a week for 4-6 weeks beginning in March.
- **Winter camp 1-3:30 Feb. 16th. - AB Palmer**
 - Don't know how many kids.
 - Friendship houses will walk down.
 - Need instructors/volunteers to assist
- **Adaptive CPSB School Year Program** – March 5th, Tue/Thur mornings 9-10:30s at Shills Rec Center
- **Spring break camps March 11th - 15th at Cockrell**
 - Expecting 40-75 kids. Never know how many
- **BAFB** — Met to discuss outreach with Adult/Children's programs.
 - Rhonda met with Vanessa Hernandez and superiors on base
 - **April 5th - Month of Military Child** - Set up table 3p-5:30
 - **1 day red ball camp**- onsite date TBD
 - **Adult/Child Family TA Program** at BTC - wants a grant. Hopefully they'll get into tennis. Data/Details TBD
 - Agreement with Barksdale. Get a background check to get on base and help. Can get a pass and be allowed onsite.
 - **Outreach/NJTL Committee** to meet tomorrow to discuss all programs for 2024

Public and Private Facilities – PRO Updates

STCC

- The weather was tough in January.
- Adult Tennis 101 beginning of March and a junior pickleball program
- Next UTR get some match play in a month.

Natchitoches

- Beginner adult 2.5 and 3.0 ongoing.
- Adult mixer rescheduled due to the weather.
- Junior programs are beginning March 4

Southern Hills

- No electricity due to winter storm and sprinkler pipe bursting and frying the outdoor court breaker panel.
- Daytime play only
 - Have rescheduled USTA night matches to later in season or to other facilities.
- Temporary building may be allocated by SPAR if longer than a month for repairs.

Cockrell

- Hosted first high school tennis match for Evangel.
 - Upcoming matches with Huntington, Southwood, and Woodlawn
- Calvary tennis team is using Cockrell as a homesite.
 - Reaching out to other the local schools, underserved, under-resourced is the main goal.
 - Applied for a grant for the younger kids - turner middle school and k-4.
 - They'll go one day a week and then they go one day to Cockrell.
 - Trying to reach a class every week.
 - Letting youngsters play on a sustained basis.
- Turner has equipment that was donated by the CTA last year.

BLT

- 15 teams. Began BLT season this week.
- Board meets 2nd Monday monthly.

Bossier

- Because of the weather, court availability has been an issue
- Hopefully something can change in the future with additional courts.
- BLT - has always partnered with 70+, they will help with VOA and Barksdale, Gloria Smith helps with Love twice closet.
- BLT, SALT. And USTA Women's Day encourage and supports one other.

SALT

- Participate in scholarships and see where they can plug in with community outreach.
- Drive volunteer base for Broadmoor and help with love twice closet.

POTC

- Level 7 juniors circuit January 20 - 43 players. The weather was freezing 39 degrees. Only one kid had to withdraw.
- Junior Circuit was canceled due to weather.
- Level 6 March 9 and 10th
- Super Bowl tournament. Canceled due to low sign up.
- Hosting BOLD tournament March 1-3rd.
- Beginner clinic, 2.5-3.5 clinic, intermediate clinics added
- LTA \$500 grant for high school coaches to connect with USTA.

Querbes

- Tennis apprentice for the winter still in progress due to weather delays.
- Lights issues remain but all courts are playable.
- Sprinkler issues due to freeze, SPAR is working on.
- Junior Programs begin next Monday
- Chris and Amy are moving to northern Illinois 6-7 weeks, last day March 15th. Start April 1st

The CTA sponsors the following tournaments annually. Requesting approval for 2024 donations: \$500 for City Tournaments, \$500 for St. Jude's and \$500 for Katy Build. Motion by Brian, second, Chris Dudley.

Committee Reports: Rhonda Rubben

- **Community Partnership Packet** – Please help promote and pass out information.
- **BOLD tournament**
 - Need Hit for Prizes – Large and small items needed.
 - Bold Tournament is only CTA fundraiser, and all net proceeds goes to juniors.
- **Marketing** – Caleb Kwok will work with the tournament (stories and reels). Caleb will also start working with Rhonda and Audrey, Idea-Path, on future projects.

State Tournaments

- First state tournament, 70 Multi State Invitational is coming up March 23-25th
 - Meeting with BLT ladies Monday to discuss food and player party
 - Have 135 registered - 6 men’s teams and 13 women’s teams
- Tournaments – Currently pay facilities \$22 per court per day. Would like to raise it to \$25 per court motion by Brian Bernard, Chris Dudley, second.
- Secured refs for 18 ODD and 40 Combo tournaments - Bobby is a new ref and Brian Turner to do the combo

Junior Tennis -NEED 2 JUNIOR COORDINATORS

Flexible work, going to the JD off campus and talking to parents making sure they have the info

- Going to after school JD. Making sure parents have all the info. Trying to start a middle school league in Bossier and enlarge the Shreveport League.
- Link for all the junior tournaments state wide, the LTA has a google doc.
- Met with Bossier Parish sports commission athletic director for middle schools - going to have a Bossier and a Shreveport team.
- Like the JTT teams, the middles school league winners go to state. This gives children a team experience and introduction to playing.
- Inservice in August get into the middle schools.
- Met with BPSB Athletic Director on 2/6

Tennis Apprentice

- Need dates for spring tennis apprentice programs.

Local League Coordinator Reports: Rhonda Rubben

Adult League Recap AS OF 2/6/2024

Adult	2024 1664 players to date Up + 204 players 18+ 944 40+ 446 55+ 274	2023 1595 players UP 52 18+ 885 40+ 455 55+ 255 UP 5 teams over 2022	2022 1543 players 18+ 806 40+ 465 55+ 272	2021 1429 players
--------------	--	---	---	----------------------

New Business:

- **Facebook** – Goal 2000 by end of 1st Quarter
- Meeting with SPAR and Querbes instructors and pro shop to work and help during the interim.
 - Want to keep it flowing until the new director comes, approx. 2-3 months.
 - RFP goes out but could be May/June/July before we have the right person in place

The meeting was adjourned. Motion Rhonda Rubben, second Chris Dudley

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Price, Secretary