

Voyager Pickleball Club Board Meeting
Santa Rita Room, Voyager Resort
January 13, 2024

Board Member Attendees:

Evelyn Bellotti-Busch, President	Karen Paurus, Player and Constituent Representative
Jerry Heintze, Vice-President	Catherine Brown, Structured Play/Player Improvement Coordinator
Beryl Schultze, Secretary	Dave McMullen, Social Coordinator
Lori Schneider, Treasurer	Diane McGee, Tournament Co-coordinator

Absent: Karen Tratiak, Tournament Co-coordinator
Mark Jordon, Court Maintenance Coordinator

Note: Any paragraph/statement marked with an asterisk (*) denotes a motion and/or vote.

Call to Order:

Evelyn Bellotti-Busch called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Besides Board attendees only two Club members, one a new member, signed-in and attended the meeting

Changes to the Agenda:

Evelyn Bellotti-Busch made two additions to the agenda by adding Membership to Old Business and Nominating Committee to New Business. No other additions were requested and the agenda stood as presented.

General Comments from the President:

Evelyn Bellotti-Busch welcomed the player attendees. She also stated that while our meetings have currently been held during the latter part of the afternoon, she was hoping that might change. Evelyn had no other comments.

Approval of Minutes:

*Beryl Schultze stated the minutes from the December meeting had been reviewed by Board members and were ready to be approved. Lori Schneider made a motion to approve the December minutes, which was seconded by Jerry Heintze. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Membership

Beryl Schultze explained to the new player attendee the history of considering a formal membership for the Voyager Pickleball Club. Beryl also indicated that no inquiries have been made by current players to pursue a formal membership. She also noted that at the November meeting a quick poll of the 18 attendees plus the nine Board members found no one was in favor of establishing a formal club membership. Beryl announced that because of no active interest the matter will not be pursued any further by the Board at this time.

New Business:

Pickleball Machine

*Lori Schneider explained that the Board was planning to purchase a Lobster Champion Pickleball Machine for the Club. Catherine Brown made a motion to purchase the machine and was seconded by Lori. Before calling for the vote Evelyn Bellotti-Busch explained that the Board had discussed at the preceding executive meeting the benefits of the top model machine that would meet the needs of all skill levels of pickleball players. The motion passed unanimously. Evelyn explained further that the Board would arrange training on the new machine for current instructors and other interested parties in order to be incorporated into lessons and structured play. It would be funded primarily by profits from the Holiday Pickleball Tournament and the on-going fund raiser of T-shirts sales. Some discussion followed regarding purchasing extra batteries for the machine and type of balls to be used.

Nominating Committee

Evelyn Bellotti-Busch explained that the Board is directed in January to establish a Nominating Committee that would be responsible for screening candidates for open Board positions for the 2024-2025 season. Evelyn stated there are three positions that will be open: Secretary, Treasurer, and Player and Constituent Representative. The Nominating Committee should consist of two Board members and three non-Board members from the Club.

Election of new Board members will take place in March. Evelyn acknowledged it has often been difficult to find people to sit on the Nominating Committee and/or be interested in becoming a candidate for a position on the Board. Jerry Heintze and Diane McGee volunteered to sit on the Nominating Committee as Board members. Evelyn encouraged everyone to reach out to fellow players encouraging them to consider being on the Nominating Committee and/or a position on the Board.

Donation of Old Pickleball Tutor Machine

*Catherine Brown reminded the Board that Dale Secord, Club player and instructor, suggested donating the old pickleball tutor machine to Jeff Ofstedahl, a Voyager Pickleball Club member, who had been setting up a pickleball club for his high school students. Dale mentioned that he had already donated old pickleballs and paddles to Jeff. Evelyn Bellotti-Busch reminded everyone that the Board was also donating its old pickleball nets to Jeff when they are replaced with new nets. Evelyn called for a motion to donate the old pickleball tutor to Jeff. Lori made the motion, which was seconded by Catherine. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Reports:

Vice President

Jerry Heintze reported that everything was good regarding court usage. No changes were planned.

Treasurer

Lori Schneider provided an update on the current financial status of the Club. The checking account balance as of December 7, 2023 was \$13,157.07 and the savings account balance was \$50. It was the opinion of Lori, as Treasurer, that the Voyager Pickleball Club was currently in satisfactory financial operating condition.

Lori also reported on some of the recent larger expenses by the Board. Seven new pickleball court nets were purchased at a cost of \$1812.21. It was hoped that Voyager would contribute towards future purchases of nets. The Holiday Tournament resulted in a significant profit but expenses were \$3148.00. Fund raising with T-shirt sales has been on-going and it plus a 50/50 raffle would be held at the Welcome Back Social on January 19th.

*Beryl Schultze made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, which was seconded by Karen Paurus and passed unanimously.

Player Representative

Karen Paurus reviewed the process of submitting suggestions or concerns via an on-line 'suggestion box.' She further explained how concerns would be handled depending if the concern was something that could be managed by a Board member or would need to be presented to the entire Board. Karen also pointed out the suggestion envelope used last year had been put back up on the bulletin board to see if comment cards would be used to submit concerns. She noted that after almost two weeks no cards with concerns were submitted. Karen also commented that this year only about three concerns had been submitted versus last year where there were over 20 concerns submitted by this time.

Lori Schneider added that the on-line form could also be accessed via a 'Suggestion Box' link on the Voyager Pickleball website, voyagerpickleball.com.

Since one of the attendees was new to Voyager pickleball Evelyn Bellotti-Busch explained the three ways to receive information about Voyager pickleball—the website, the Voyager Pickleball Facebook page, and by signing up for pickleball-related emails via the website.

Court Maintenance

Evelyn Bellotti-Busch reported that due to Mark Jordon's absence she was managing the courts while he is gone.

Secretary

Beryl Schultze had nothing further to report.

Player Improvement/ Structured Play

Catherine Brown reported everything had been going well with Player Improvement and Structured Play. The majority of lessons started in January, with the Beginner and Beginner Plus having started in December. Catherine explained for the new player at the meeting how to sign up for lessons and also how Structured Play worked. She also indicated there was still a need for volunteers for Structured Play sessions.

Social

Dave McMullen reminded all that the first social event of the season was being held the following Friday January 19th from 5:00-7:00 in the ballroom. Food would be served and a 50/50 raffle held. Also an announcement would be made about the purchase of the Lobster Champion Pickleball Machine for the Club and Catherine Brown's personal machine, exactly like the one purchased, would be shown. Dave went on to report that another social, currently undefined, would be held in February and the final social would be held in March. Dave also indicated other miscellaneous socials might be held during the season.

Tournament Coordinators

Diane McGee first reported on the Saturday Shenanigans Tournament All six of the reserved courts had players and they appeared to have fun. Diane was not sure if one would be held in February. She stated the next scheduled tournament was the Dink Tournament scheduled for Saturday, January 20th. Diane had limited the tournament to 40 players and it was already filled with a wait list. The Pickleball Rodeo will be held February 17th. Evelyn Belloti-Busch asked Diane if prizes were needed for the Dink Tournament and the Rodeo. Diane assured Evelyn that prizes had already been planned.

Public Comment:

Dale Secord asked if the number of pickleball players on the courts were being provided to the Voyager management to help persuade them that more pickleball courts will be needed. Evelyn Belloti-Busch responded that management had asked the Board to report to them anytime the courts were so full that players had to wait to play. Evelyn added that so far the numbers hadn't required reporting anything but with lessons and Structured Play starting and more players arriving the numbers would likely go up. The numbers would be monitored closely, including any waiting list numbers, and reported as requested.

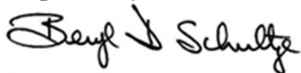
Dale also had some questions on responsibility for the Lobster Pickleball Machine. Evelyn explained the training and roll-out plan for the new pickleball machine.

Karen Paurus asked Evelyn and Lori Schneider about the Voyager-sponsored 'Meet the Clubs' event at which the Board had a table display. Both Evelyn and Lori indicated it was not very crowded for any of the displays, whereas last year it was very busy.

Adjourn:

*Evelyn called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Beryl Schultze made the motion, which was seconded by Jerry Heintze. It was approved. Evelyn adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beryl Schultze
Secretary