



**Harbour Town Racquet Club**  
3 Marina Road / P.O. Box 15001  
New Bern, NC 28562  
252-636-5652

**October 15, 2018**  
**Annual Business Meeting**

**LOCATION OF MEETING:** The Emerald Clubhouse

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Bob Murphy called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 6:04 p.m. In attendance were Board of Directors Bob Murphy, Rich Lamke, Peter Whittlesey, Doreen Hyet, Kathy Rioux, Mike See and Members Ken Ralph, Earl Print, Philip Swain, Dan Frey, Gayle Daras, Pat Beck, Diana Goldman, Nancy Zusi, Sherald Sawyer, Frank Bruno, Mike Dodd, Laurel Baldwin.

Bob opened the meeting by welcoming members and introducing new members in attendance, Patricia Beck and Mike Dodd. Bob thanked Nancy Zusi for arranging use of the meeting room at The Emerald because we could not meet at River Bend Town Hall due to recent flooding.

Bob inquired if all present had read the Minutes from the last meeting. Gayle Daras made a motion to approve the Minutes, motion seconded, and Minutes approved by all.

Bob called on Doreen Hyet to review **Events and Activities**, which include:

- November Annual Turkey Doubles for Levels A and B, Mixed Doubles on Nov 17 with rain date of Nov 18; Men's and Women's Doubles on Dec 1 with rain date of Dec 2.
- Christmas Party on December 11, which will be a luncheon at The Chelsea
- January and February Dining out.
- April Spring Fling - date to be determined depending on league schedule. Doreen requested someone to help her with the event, particularly with prizes and donations

Bob called for volunteers to help Doreen because she is away December through mid-April every year. Ken Ralph volunteered Dottie to make arrangements for Dining Out in January and February. As usual, Kathy will prepare flyers and sign-up sheets.

Bob called on Rich to give the **Treasury Report** (see attached). We have lost nine members since 2016. Our current income is covering all operating expenses. Rich estimates we spend \$15,00.00 every 2-3 years on court maintenance.

We had significant expenses this year for landscaping, court resurfacing and updating the watering system, totaling \$25,832.64, in addition to our regular operating expenses of \$43,164 (which includes Mike's salary).

- Net Funds End of Year 2017	\$47,373
- Net Funds End of Year 2018	\$32,744
- Estimated Net Funds End of Year 2019	\$35,874

Bob then discussed this **Year in Review**. We had to have a lot of work done to correct the drainage problem areas and needed to hire professionals for landscaping and updating the watering system, as well as resurfacing of all courts, including lines and nets. Skip Bulkley helped procure the services of Phil, who maintains the watering system for The Emerald, and Phil replaced hardware and sprinkler heads and made adjustments in flow and spread. Tom Shoup assisted with setting and operation of the timer, which had been out of whack.

Overall, the courts are in great shape and the watering system is now working very well. However, quite a few of the lines are starting to buckle and the nails are popping, mainly on courts 4 & 5. Unfortunately, Rich Lamke took a fall the other day and sprained his wrist. Bob will be contacting Bobby Taylor to have him come and inspect and make necessary corrections.

We also had some trees down from Hurricane Florence in September, as well as damage to the shed doors and facia. Recent expense for professional tree removal was \$750. Bob NEEDS A FEW HANDS to move tree debris from the parking lot area to the side of the road for pick-up. These expenses are not covered by insurance because we have \$1,500 deductible and the SHED IS NOT covered. He suggested we simply replace the doors and facia.

The **patio** surrounding the clubhouse is rotting and Peter is in the process of replacing the railings around the deck area and has recently determined that the supporting joists and planks are rotting and also in need of replacing. **This needs to be addressed immediately because of safety issues**. Peter has not done any calculations but, when asked, he said materials alone may cost \$15,000. The **rocking chairs** are also beginning to rot and the stacking chairs are getting old, discolored and cracking. Members suggested replacing all with Trex or a similar product that does not rot. Gayle Daras suggested making purchases at the end of the season to get the best prices. Peter said he would have to work one section at a time to do repairs.

**Bob praised and thanked all our volunteers.** Bob proceeded to give a list of the many members who have helped with different jobs around the club, but a few have gone above and beyond, namely: Ken Ralph, Brad Humphreys, Peter Whittlesey, Tom Shoup, Skip Bulkley, Lou Price, Laurel Baldwin, Pam Miller, Connie Whitney.

In turn, Phil Swain and members present congratulated and thanked Bob on his excellent management and oversight this past year. Phil Swain also commented upon what a great job

Bob and Kathy have done with the USTA League matches, etc. Phil also inquired about progress on acquiring a ball machine for members to use at the club. Bob asked Phil to take the lead on this, have a meeting with interested members, discuss parameters, etc., and present a plan to the Board of Directors for review and approval.

Mike was queried about future expenditures, which he says will be the routine maintenance costs of court material and windscreens. Laurel mentioned that she observed some clubs in the Hilton Head area have “natural windscreens” in the form of vines growing up the fences. Bob commented that this obstructs the view and is a maintenance problem, although may be feasible in the back courts where a view is not necessary.

The subject of planting flowers came up and Bob said we should **ONLY** have flowers in the pots, to keep maintenance to a minimum.

Ken Ralph commented that we should **take pride in our club**. We have the courts in excellent shape and we should update the surroundings. He suggested we **NOT** take a “nickel and dime” approach. Ken’s philosophy is that we should spend whatever is necessary because it will benefit the members and also impress visitors and potential new members.

Gayle Daras raised concerns about the cleaning supplies that are sitting in a corner of the clubhouse and that the furniture and cushions look shabby. Suggestions were made to store the cleaning supplies in Mike’s office closet. Mike will store them in the back room and bring out as necessary for the cleaning people.

Frank Bruno made a motion to buy new rockers for the porch, as well as new chairs and also replacing the decking with Trex. Gayle Daras seconded this motion. All were in favor and voted unanimously.

Bob said he would survey the club with Mike to see what enhancements they can make. Gayle said she would purchase an outdoor clock “that everyone can see”.

Nancy Zusi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55pm, motion seconded, all in favor.

The next Board Meeting will be December 4, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Rioux, Secretary