



**Harbour Town Racquet Club**  
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**March 17, 2017**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**

**LOCATION OF MEETING:** Harbour Town Racquet Club House

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Ed Hall called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 12:10 p.m. In attendance were Mike See, Ed Hall, Rich Lamke, Bob Murphy, Dan Frey, Kathy Rioux, Tom Shoup, Terry Shoup, Laurel Baldwin.

The Minutes from the October 2016 meeting were approved.

Resignations: Elaine Hardy, Sally Kiely, Tommaso Serra, Robert Raynor.

Membership: We added one new and two re-joining club members plus three team members to the Women's 3.0 and 3.5 teams. Welcome back Elaine Hardy and Sally Kiely. Welcome new member, Cathy Smith.

Board Positions: All positions are filled and active. Bob Murphy was nominated to serve as Vice-President and voted unanimously. Ed Hall will be stepping down as President in October 2016.

Treasurer's Report: We have had a positive cash flow this past quarter and have been able to save. As always, we need to increase membership.

Maintenance: The first topic was the sprinkler system and the need to replace solenoids. Ed has been able to replace these at minimal cost. Also discussed was the programming schedule for the watering system, which is on an A B C set up. A = night, B = daytime, C = Sunday. For the most part Mike is able to make necessary adjustments manually, but the system is often unpredictable. Ed suggested we may want to replace the timer for about \$60 but will wait and see if the need arises.

Tom Shoup offered to be on hand to assist Mike with the maintenance and Ed explained the system operation and how to replace a solenoid.

Har-Tru: We have 2 tons left, which should last until July. Ed suggested that Mike place an order now and try to arrange for a delivery time that will coincide with other deliveries in the area to cut down on delivery fees. Mike will communicate with Ed and work this out together.

Water filtering system and water softener: The system is rented through Culligan and our rental agreement includes free service. We just provide the salt tablets for the filter. Mike and club members should be on alert that if there is discolored water or an odor, then the filtering system needs to be checked and the salt tablets may need to be redistributed evenly.

Bathrooms: The exterior doors are rusting and Ed is ordering new “slabs” to replace the doors, as well as new lock sets. Ed and another man can install the doors and locksets. The paper towel dispenser in the ladies room also needs to be replaced.

Work Day: Many members help with regular trimming of shrubs, etc. However, we need to set a date for a workday to spruce up the club. Date to be determined.

Court Lighting: The last time we tried to use the lights they shorted out. The lights are old and many of the underground wires have corroded, and the main electrical box was replaced a few years ago but does not appear to be up to code. The entire system is over 30 years old. Nonetheless, Ed will call in an electrical contractor to get an assessment of what can be done along with an estimate of cost.

Tom and Terry, as well as Laurel expressed the need for working lights, particularly for nighttime play during the hot summer months. They also expressed concern about getting younger players to join the club and the fact that we need working lights because younger players will want to play after work hours and cannot play during the daytime hours. We also need the lights for the USTA matches. In the meantime, we have requested the USTA LLC to schedule our home matches on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

We all recognize that our club is predominantly seniors, who prefer to play during the day and are very happy with our MWF program. However, it was pointed out that we need to do whatever we can to attract younger members so our club can continue to thrive when the older members resign.

Laurel also shared the fact that the 3.5 men do not want to mix with the 3.0 men and that the newer male players do not feel welcome and are not given the opportunity to improve. This concern has been raised many times and in fact Dan set up a mixed group play time and was alarmed at how much opposition he received from the 3.5 men. Ed felt that the members should be able to play with whom they wish and we have no control over this.

In addition to USTA, Bob Murphy shared that he has been playing in a >70 group and in fact will be going to an event in Pinehurst next month. He went to an event last fall in Virginia Beach and met a nice group of men and had a great time.

Twilight Leagues: This group is being renamed “Community Tennis” since we played on Sunday afternoons over the winter months. Most response has been from the 3.0 players. We need more participation from 3.5 players. This group is currently on hold during the USTA league season. We can only do this in the summer if we have working lights.

Events: Doreen planned a March scrambles that was cancelled due to conflict with League play. We currently have no special events planned. It was suggested we try to do a scrambles in May if it does not interfere with leagues. It was discussed that the events should be planned out in January for the entire year.

Ed also pointed out that The Emerald has quite a few scrambles and they send emails out to all the local players and suggested we do likewise. In the past, we kept our club events closed to outsiders, but the past few years we have included nonmembers and this has been quite successful.

Ed suggested that we get the Christmas dinner scheduled and that we go back to Water’s Edge and all agreed.

Advertising: We need to get our name out in the community. Suggestions include:

- 1) Jan Elisa Mosca has volunteered to purchase a 2.5 x 3.5 advertisement in the Oriental Boat Show Brochure April 21-23 at a cost of \$55. Mike offered to do a free doubles strategies clinic on Saturday morning and Kathy sent the advertisement to Jan Elisa, which includes the free doubles strategy clinic and two hours of play.
- 2) In addition, Kathy will print out the same advertisement that members can place around town at restaurants, groceries stores, etc. Kathy will post at the Rec Center and Library.
- 3) Send this same advertisement to the Sun Journal. Send a “news article” to Adam at the Sun Journal about club events.
- 4) Kathy will follow up with the Newcomers group to see if they need more flyers.
- 5) Send Event Flyers to all the local players.
- 6) Ed is preparing a large poster to go in the window at Captain Ratty’s Restaurant.
- 7) We also need to provide more club applications for the restaurant to hand out.
- 8) In the past, Ed had suggested looking into TALK radio since it is free.
- 9) Mike has business cards, which members can take and share.

Website and Newsletter: The website looks terrific and is up to date! Thanks to our terrific web master, Steve Groninga. The newsletter has a lot of repeat information and it was agreed that we can send out quarterly instead of monthly.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Rioux, Secretary