
Ad Hoc Tennis Committee Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2021 DRAFT

Call to order

A meeting of the Ad Hoc Tennis Committee was called to order online on Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6:04 pm by Fred Phelps, Chairman. Members in attendance included: Martha Healy, Fred Phelps, Cheryl Hancin Preston (ex-officio), Roy Wentworth and Erin Challinor. Absent was Paul Zinewicz,

Citizen Comments

No other members of the community were present online or attempting to enter the meeting.

Old Business

Minutes for the meeting March 8 were reviewed. Under budget update “we now have \$3676 from 73 donors “ will be corrected to read “we now have \$3676” Minutes accepted with correction unanimously. (Wentworth/Challinor)

New Business

Fundraising.

Google document. Fred noted that some of the donations that he knew were made were not on it. Members should all be able to add to it. Roy stated that he sent an email to all names on the Google document not claimed by a committee member and about 1/3 bounced back. Martha asked if non-profit should be included. Cheryl said that some do indeed donate to other causes.

Martha made a call and the individual felt that people that wanted to be involved were not included. Erin made phone calls and has contacted the Chamber of Commerce. They have lost membership during Covid as businesses can not afford to pay the membership fees. Martha discussed with Chris Portelance the lack of progress contacting the Mohegan tribe. Fred has put an email out to all the community members that attended the first meeting. And he will contact WB Mason. He has also sent than you notes to all but American Landscape.

Donations collected will go to the upkeep of the four courts in Norwich if this attempt does not reach its goal.

Martha spoke with George Strouse in relation to the fundraising that was done in Stonington for tennis courts. He suggested that if we do not raise the \$400,000, that we consider Hard True. In his opinion the \$100,000 would pay for cleaning out the court, digging it out, rolling and top dressing, fixing the fence and putting down lines and nets. The downside is the \$10,000 in yearly upkeep. Cheryl was asked if it might be included in the yearly budget, or if we raise enough to put aside for the next several years of upkeep.

Cheryl noted that the information on the fundraising campaign is now in many places:

- *Facebook

- *Norwich Recreation website

- *The back of the Norwich Recreation Programs flyer

- *The Norwich Times

A banner with a thermometer \$10,00-\$400,000 has been ordered (\$180) to be erected on the Lou DePina field where it will be well visualized.

Budget Update

Cheryl noted that we now have \$11,367 including a single contribution of \$5,000.

The City Council public comment for the budget starts at 7:30 on April 15. It is unclear how many people will be allowed to meet in person. But the committee should at least have a letter read in the meeting. The budget approval is June 4.

Fred asked if any committee members had thought of the timeframe for this project. No responses!

Action Items

Everyone will:

- *make calls for fundraising.

- *look for places to advertise the tennis court fundraiser.

- *update the Google document making changes when emails bounce back, and the status of contacts.

- * brainstorm other ideas for fundraising

Cheryl will:

- *add donations that she receives to the Google document.

- *send the 501-C3 paperwork to committee members.

- *notify members when the banner is put up

- *include the tennis fundraising in her article for the Norwich Times this month.

Martha will do the last thank you note to American Landscape.

Fred will make calls regarding the cost of Hard True tennis courts, and contact Hinding Tennis

Next Meeting; May 10 at 6 pm on the internet

Adjournment

6:47 pm Motion made and accepted
unanimously (Wentworth/Healy)

Respectfully submitted,

Martha B. Healy
Secretary

Date of approval
