

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association (NWLACTA)
Minutes for May 1, 2024, Board Meeting

Call to Order- President Brian Bernard

Attendance – Board members: Brian Bernard, Rhonda Rubben, Ashley Price, Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell, Ken Meyers, Katherine Arterberry. Others: Rodric Arterberry, Marilyn Meyers, Hassan Abbas, Bob Patterson, Jay Boyd, Dede Plette, Kaye Cochran

April minutes were approved. Motion by Rhonda Rubben, Second Grady Wilson

Executive Board Reports:

President Report Brian Bernard

- Community Partners
 - Raised \$7000 to date plus \$5000 raised for outreach for a total of \$12000
- Querbes update
 - Rhonda is overseeing Querbes until the new director is hired and the City and CTA want to express appreciation.
 - Rhonda, Brian and Grady have all been working closely together as issues arise and Pierre has also been involved making minor repairs as they come up.
 - Purchased her and Pierre a gift certificate for dinner as appreciation.
 - RFP just went out, but it could be late summer, early fall before the position is filled.
- Southern Hills - City is aware the storm repairs are going slower than desired. Clubhouse flooring is being installed soon and bathrooms almost ready. Rhonda has met with the city and is getting updates.

Treasurer's Report Rhonda Rubben

- Assets: \$ 244548, including \$ 158946 cash (\$20600 restricted), \$ 76597 Merrill Lynch.
- Liabilities: \$ 7996, including \$ 6455 credit card and \$1542 (restricted).
- Total income for April 2024: \$ 15053, includes \$5436 for spring league, \$2712 Tennis Apprentice, \$4200 Querbes, \$549 Love Twice, and \$1855 Junior Tennis
- Total expenses for April 2024: \$ 17086, including \$ 2986 QTC (to be reimb SPAR), \$1035 annual QB renewal, \$2593 Junior Tennis, and \$7622 coordinator fees expense to date.
- Balance Sheet and P & L by MTH YTD available for review.

USTA/LTA/STA Reports: Jay Boyd/Grady Wilson/Phillip Campbell

- USTA/Louisiana Tennis Association Updates - **Jay Boyd**
 - Application online for applying for the LTA board or the committee for 2025-2026
 - Really would like people on the board to be active locally such as people here at the CTA
 - Questions call Jay Boyd
- USTA/LTA - **Grady Willson**
 - Attended USTA annual conference
 - Dr Ryan Hayline -President of USTA: loves tennis, neurologist, chief medical doctor
 - He did a great job of breaking down the health benefits of tennis
 - Explain what tennis does for your life, brain and heart
 - Working on nominating and finding volunteers for the LTA Board
 - Ken is representing on the leadership development fellowship

NJTL/Outreach Report – Rhonda Rubben

- **USTA Foundation Grant**

- 2024 Application completed.
 - Applied for \$20,000 and received \$10,000
- **Broadmoor VOA/SALT/CTA After School Program**
 - Program Completed at Querbes with an end of year party.
 - Special thanks to Kirita Windham, Pam O'Brien, Kathryn Wood, Jennifer Moorehead, Melinda Dorset, Susan Negron and Loyola/Byrd HS Tennis Volunteers
 - Will have 5th year fall at Broadmoor and begin one at Bossier Tennis Center for the Bossier Lighthouse
- **VOA Bossier Lighthouse**
 - Program completed, special thanks to Kay Cochran, Todd, Bianca and BLT volunteers
 - Katy Build gave c\$200 towards racquets and a pizza party
 - Want to continue in the fall
- **Adaptive CPSB School Year Program**
 - Program completed, special thanks to Kirita Windham and Eric Zimmer
 - Start in the fall to do a special olympics
 - Adaptive program tomorrow in bossier and hoping to do a special olympics this fall
- **BAFB – Approved for Adult/Children programs**
 - **April 5th – Month of Military Child** – went well, special thanks the Kirita Windhap, Pam Haley, and Bonnie Cox
 - A lot of little ones. Not a lot of middle school or high school students
- **1 Day Red Ball Camp** – on site Date May 29
 - Bianca Roge to lead and Kaye Cochran to assist with BLT volunteers
- **BAFB Summer Camp – On site – BLT Volunteers – Kaye Instructor**

Will be held on tuesdays june 6, 11, 18, 25, 9-11am

 - 12-24 kids max, 3rd and up
 - Last one at BTC
- **CTC summer camp**
 - June 3rd-6th and June 10th-13th, 9:30-11am
 - 65 registered online to date
 - Plan to have some pop up one day at AB Palmer

Outreach/NJTL Committee

- Katherine is going with Genesis and her mom will attend leadership camp at Tulane - a boy and a girl
- They paid the fee. Cost \$300 to attend plus \$200 travel stipend
- Hoping in October Maryline and Kathern and Rhonda will go to leadership conference in Orlando

Public and Private Facilities– PRO UPDATES

Bossier

- Looking at reigniting Play tennis Bossier.
 - Started over 20 years ago when there was no tennis facility in Bossier. Just five families recruited others and they went to city council and got enough funding to build bossier tennis center.
 - Bossier tennis center is back at the point where they need more courts. Todd has had no luck with City council
 - They're recruiting people to help advocacy efforts
 - Would like 6 new soft courts - reasonable amount of money for it
 - Rhonda, Jay and Selwyn or leading the committee
 - Councilman would rather have a second facility in south bossier - it would cost a lot more money
 - Building more courts on an established facility makes more financial sense
 - \$1.25 mil is rough estimate

POTC

- Back in April had the Independence bowl classic. Had 130 players between POTC and CTC. Enjoyed the time and looking forward to coming back
- April 14th junior team tennis rain out on Saturday so pushed to Sunday. Used Querbes and POTC. 54 players
 - 10 and under, 12 and under, and 14 and under divisions. No 18 and under bc of regionals and state for high schoolers
 - No winners in 10 and under. 14 and under are going to state at end of June. POTC and Bossier players
- Looking forward to the Memorial Day mixer
- May 31-June 2 running 18 & Over ODD state championships
 - 3 months ago hired Therina. She has been doing great job. Hired another coach that will join at end of month. She did a USTA leadership fellowship
- Junior development will end may 16th and then they'll get started with their summer programming

Querbes

- Bond Passed - Pool and the community center will be demolished. 3-5 year plan for 3-5 more hard courts
- Summer camp starting first week in June for ages 4-18
 - Steven Floyd and Isabelle Rocher teaching summer camp. High school tennis players assistants
 - July for 3rd grade and up
- Tennis apprentice ends this Saturday, went very well with 26 participants. Having a party
- RFP closes next week - hoping someone will be there in July/August

So Hills

- Bond passed - will be slated for another 2 bank multi-use tennis/pickleball courts.

Cockrell

- Will get a new parking lot
- Ken was one of two from Louisiana at the USTA leadership meeting. Each location has different aspects and issues.
 - What he got out of this was that everything is community based. Not from a youth or adult point of view but from a community point of view
 - Southern leadership - glean from the different points of view. Some had no support. Asking the question what can be done. Everyone get together like what were doing at the CTA meetings.
- Junior development program doing well
- Worked with POTC and hosted boys and girls 12 and under and 18 and under
 - 12 participants from their JD program
 - Enjoyed working with Cotter
- High school - ended state and regionals
- Upcoming May Tennis Month Events: Tennis and friends bring your bestie to tennis, get moving, old school versus new school, memorial day mixer
- Facilitating NJTL youth camps this summer with SPAR and CTA NJTL Chapter
- Leadership - zoom call , Atlanta ATO tour
 - Ken played in the tennis bowl and now is hosting it

Natchitoches

- Beginner adult on Monday Nights
- Finishing JD programs
- Tennis apprentice starts May 6th
- High school spring classic may 11
- Youth and adult free lessons May 18th
- Memorial Day Mixer May 27th

Southern Trace

- Mint Julep was a huge success. 144 played. 8 new players
- Summer Camp gearing up
- Tennis 101 5 new players
- UTR - green/orange ball may 17th. Regular ball May 18th

Committee Reports:

Adult

Community Partner/Fundraising

Marketing

State Tournaments

Awards

Grants

Outreach & Special Programs/Grants

Volunteer/Hospitality Committee

CTA Tournament

Junior Tennis

- June 7th Dede, Brian, and Rhonda going Lafayette for Digital Training hosted by LTA
- Tri State CTA meeting - Dede and Rhonda going to Little Rock
- State tournament 18 odd POTC hosting, Cockrell and Querbes satellite facilities
 - State Director basing out of POTC. Caps as players gifts, meal coupons and heavy snacks
- Scholarships closed - 1 renewal, 8 one time applicants 1 need base. Salt will give \$2000 this year - If award everyone it will be up to \$5500
 - Announce mid-May, Awards will be held after either at June or August Board meeting.

Junior Tennis

- JTT Spring Tournament Weekend - Saturday April 20th POTC
 - 55 attended, special thanks to Hassan and court monitors
 - Sent invites for state in June
- Junior Middle School tennis league - Beginning Fall 2024
 - Lots of interest at a variety of places. Calvary, Ascension, Benton, CMM, First Baptist, PCA, Youree, Home School, St Josephs. Want to also have Walnut Hill and Turner but no one has turned in an interest form.
 - Met with BPSB Athletic director 2/6 - Following up in May
 - Lana Wray assisting with Bossier Jotform and information out to parents and children. Dwayne Slack assisting with AD and Schools
 - Will have 2 leagues, Shreveport and Bossier
 - Working on local rules/regs with state jr director

Coordinators' Reports-Community Coordinators Kaye Cochran, Kirita Windham, Valarie Thiels (Tennis Apprentice)

Tennis Apprentice –

- Valerie Thiels is doing an outstanding job
- Making sure everyone understand tennis
- Working on payments for programs for the tennis apprentice

Adult League

- 1 more month for the captain gift cards
- Hoping to get a few more mix teams
- Same number of teams but less players
- 18 and over draws just came out for state tournament

Other New Business: Newsletter - Pros please send all upcoming information for Newsletter.

- Facebook – **have 1925 Followers** in Facebook, Want to get to 2000!!!
Go to NWLACTA Page-Scroll Down-See Community-INVITE FRIENDS

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- Play Tennis SB look to make sure your info is up to date
- National Park and Recreation Month
 - 8 spots total
 - Opportunity to have events - go through cta and serve tennis
- Hassan and Grady did a TV spot to push tennis Rhonda will email the link out
- Hang sign with QR code on it at every facility

On Facebook when you see NWLACTA Post please **COMMENT, like, and share**

The meeting was adjourned. Motion Rhonda, second Grady

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Price, Secretary