

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION
“To promote and develop tennis in Northwest Louisiana”
Minutes – March 6, 2019

1. The meeting was called to order by President Rhonda Rubben.
2. Secretary Nancy Bushnell Harper was unable to attend to meeting, Sue Allender was asked to take notes. Board members present include Rhonda Rubben, Bob Patterson, Jay Boyd, Grady Wilson, Joey Lawler, Phillip Campbell, David Kimball, Stevie Schmidt and Eddie Copete. Board members absent John Liles, Nancy Bushnell Harper, Todd Killen, Ed Holman, Tracy Meehan and Brian Bernard. We have a quorum. CTA members present Mike Correal, Sue Allender, Lance Dyer, Kaye Cochran, Louis Guerin and Richard LeGarde. The February minutes were motioned to be approved by Jay Boyd, Rhonda Rubben second the motion, all were in favor. The March minutes stand as written.
3. Treasurer John Liles was unable to attend the meeting, Jay Boyd did report that a savings account has been opened at Red River Bank. Jay and Rhonda have met with Tara Hammock about putting funds into a high yield money market account, with securing bonds in the future. Jay Boyd made a motion that we allow John, Rhonda and he to be able to move/invest the funds. Grady Wilson second the motion. All were in favor.
4. President Rhonda Rubben gave her report:
 - a. Rhonda asked the board to remember to return to her their signed Board Agreement Letter. Each Board Member should be on at least one committee for 2019.
 - b. The 2nd Annual Bill Oliver Tournament and Junior Fundraiser is just around the corner (March 15 – 17) at POTC. Rhonda had certificates for our Pros to sign giving a free racquet stringing and/or lesson to be donated to the Hit For Prizes. We are needing additional prizes to hit as well as volunteers, especially during check in on Friday at 5 PM and Saturday at 8 AM. Saturday will be ‘80’s Tennis Day. Dress up like your favorite ‘80’s tennis player and play to 80’s music.
 - c. So far, we have over \$5,000 in sponsorships and would like to initiate a Community Partner Sponsorship packet. This will cover a full year and will help businesses budget for the future. One of our sponsors is South Highlands Storage, where we will be moving our equipment at the end of this month and help will be needed. Jay Boyd did state that we do need to support our sponsors.
 - d. The Sports Commission asked for our help during the Hot Air Balloon Festival on July 12 – 13. Spaces will be allocated for the general public, but they will not be able to bring in any tents. We will be manning a booth that will rent out umbrellas (similar to what we purchased last year but full circle) and at the end of the festival we will be able to keep the umbrellas.
 - e. The 70 and Over Invitational State Tournament is to be held April 5 – 7 at Bossier. Will be needing volunteers.
 - f. We are already looking at 2020 tennis events. If any of the pros have something already scheduled for 2020, please send the information to Rhonda.
5. Jay Boyd gave the Querbes Tennis Center update. The NWLaCTA Querbes Tennis Committee meets regularly with SPAR. The tennis center closed effective February 1, 2019. All tennis programs, clinics, lessons, etc. have been moved to Southern Hills. The project re-opening date is

December 31, 2019. All courts are being redone. This includes 6 soft courts, 5 hard and two 18-foot courts. Lighting, curbing, fencing and the building (with wheelchair access to the office and restrooms) are all being completely renovated, along with a new entrance. The total cost for all renovations significantly exceeds a million dollars. This project would not be underway if not for the Querbes Park Foundation and its founder, James West, who stepped up to guarantee a \$250,000 line of credit to get the project started. The \$250,00 was matched by the city in addition to its already substantial commitment to the project. We are applying for grants, asking for donations, doing fundraisers, etc.

6. League Coordinator, Bob Patterson gave the numbers for our 2019 Adult League Season. They do not look as good as last year, but it seems that this is a trend in our State. The Adult 18 and Over are down 96 players from last year, Adult 40 and Over is down 58 players, and Adult 55 and Over up 30 players from last year for a difference of 184 players less than 2018.
7. The Katy Build Tournament has asked for our continuing sponsorship for their 2019 tournament. David Kimball made a motion that we once again donate \$500 to this wonderful cause, Bob Patterson second the motion. All were in favor.
8. Rhonda had someone donate a beautiful Lee Michaels Earing and Necklace set as a fund raiser for our CTA. Grady Wilson suggested we get with Alan Cobb about appraising the piece. Rhonda will get with Angela Pfanner about putting it in the Katy Build silent auction and see if we could split the final bid with them.
9. Community Coordinator, Kaye Cochran reported on the following tennis activities around our community:
 - a. A Junior Level 6 will be played on Saturday, March 9 at Bossier.
 - b. The NFL Tournament originally scheduled last weekend will be moved to June.
 - c. Squire Creek in Ruston will be hosting tennis clinics by well known professionals in the coming months. Be sure to check our website for additional information.
 - d. The women tennis players are rather active in Shreveport/Bossier. SALT has 330 players and Bossier (BLT) has 96 players.
 - e. Tennis Apprentice is being offered at Southern Hills and Bossier Tennis Center this month and look to have a Step Up League following their conclusion.
 - f. Again, we are looking for volunteers for the Bill Oliver Fundraiser for Junior Tennis Tournament and the USTA 70+ Invitational.
10. Finally, if you have not friended our NWLaCTA page on Facebook, please do so and invite all your friends!

**NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2019
NOON - POTC**