

**SOUTH HAVEN PICKLEBALL CLUB  
BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 30, 2025**

**LOCATION:** Van Buren County Senior Center

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Mike Sawyer, President  
Jim Slattery, Vice President  
Mike Marcus, Treasurer  
Nancy Hillegonds, Secretary  
Jim Robinson, At Large  
Rosemary Fitzer, At Large  
Tricia Hudson, At Large

**CALL TO ORDER:** 10:30 A.M.

**MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA:**

Move to Adopt: Rosemary Fitzer  
Second: Jim Robinson  
Approved

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES:**

Move to Adopt: Jim Slattery  
Second: Jim Robinson  
Approved

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Mike Sawyer, President—Nothing specific; information on agenda items will be discussed as to status of several items that the Club has been following

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

\*Added 8 members in March; for a rough total membership of approximately 270

\*Ended March with a balance of \$6,042 with a few outstanding checks

\*Financials included

\*The Club has received its 501(c)(3) designation

## **MOTION TO ADOPT TREASURER'S REPORT**

Move to Adopt: Nancy Hillegonds

Second: Jim Robinson

Approved

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Tournaments:**

1. Tricia Hudson and Jim Slattery organized a women's tournament—successful event; 24 players total
2. Blueberry Festival Tournament:
  - \* Will be held at Lake Arvesta on **August 7, 2025—one day event**
  - \* Have had a meetings with Scott from Lake Arvesta about organizing the event
  - \* Tom and Jen Martens have drafted a promotional flyer which contains the specifics
  - \* Sue Catherman is working on an on-line registration page
  - \* Lake Arvesta will rent courts; will not be a co-sponsor
  - \* 80 Players total; 20 teams for each skill level
  - \* Will ask for volunteers to staff tournament at General Meeting in June
  - \* Deposit of \$540 has been made to reserve Arvesta Courts
  - \* Lake Arvesta will require a waiver for all players
  - \* Blueberry Festival Organization requires a \$250 fee to be part of “official” events—will see if we can get that waived

### **B. AFD Demonstration and Purchase**

Nothing has been purchased; the South Haven Fire Chief is attempting to negotiate a better price on new equipment so this item will be discussed at a later date after we have information from the Fire Chief

### **C. RIVERWOODS**

\*Mike and Jim Robinson attended the SHARA meeting where the appraisal for the property was estimated at \$1.2 million; much higher than expected

- \*The approximate purchase price from the City/SHARA to DNR is \$334K; substantially higher than initial estimate
- \*Bottom line is the property has not yet been transferred; pickleball courts will probably not happen at Riverwoods for several years and will likely have to be privately funded
- \*There is a real question as to whether the City/SHARA has the ability to fund the new purchase price; if they can't the grant application for reconstruction of the boardwalk will have to be pulled back

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Court Striping High School—**

- \*Met with school superintendent, Anna Putnam— —met also with Kevin D facilities manager—
- \*Made a request to stripe more courts—
- \*Administration was very open to request; committed to seeking a quote to stripe two additional tennis courts (4 additional pickleball courts)
- \*After the meeting the school received some concern from the tennis coach and parents about how confusing it is to have multiple lines on the court—
- \*Efforts continue to be made to see where we can find common ground between pickleballers and tennis players
- \*Kevin D facilities director— -talked about refurbishing Baseline tennis courts— -exploring with school other options for permanent courts

### **B. Elections Ballot/Bylaws**

- \*Four Board members will be up for re-election in June: Mike Marcus, Jim Robinson, Jim Slattery and Tricia Hudson
- \*Rosemary Fitzer will not be returning resulting in an open At Large seat
- \*All seats are for a two year term
- \*Three people have expressed interest in running for the open seat
- \*Will have to check membership for voting purposes
- \*Ballots to be handed out at General Membership Meeting

### **C. BY-LAW CHANGE—**

- \*Future discussion about succession; vice-president ascends to president; president ex-officio

\*Table for future discussion

#### **D. LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR OFFICERS**

\*Contained in our bylaws

\*Protection for officers

\*Probably need something since we are running tournaments

\*Mike S and Mike M will explore quotes

#### **E. Promoting SHPC**

\*General Board Meeting on June 16, 2025; 5 p.m. at Senior Center

\*Recruit a volunteer for publicity; we have lots going on and should be working with paper to highlight our activities

Reminders:

Picnic Wednesday, August 20, 2025—Stanley Johnson Park

Holiday Party Tuesday, December 9, 2025—Senior Center

#### **F. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

None

#### **G. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

\* Move to Adjourn: Rosemary Fitzer

\*Second: Tricia Hudson

Adjournment—11:53 a.m.

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