

DAPP Meeting July 20, 2023

Sandi kicked off the meeting at 6Pm on 7/20. Approximately 20 people attended including DAPP committee members.

Intro. Sandi gave an intro. DAPP is Durham Area Pickleball Players. DAPP is not DPR. DAPP has bylaws, a website, regular meetings, etc. DAPP is all volunteers. DAPP runs the Bull City Tournament as a fundraiser. DAPP has been raising money for Durham pickleball. If you are on the DAPP email list, then you are a DAPP member. Today is our first ever public meeting. Tammy Brown was to attend but she had to leave to attend another activity.

Last Meeting. Sandi made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. The meeting minutes were approved.

Funding Update. Michelle gave an update. Beginning of this year DAPP had approx. \$785. Bull City Open is the primary fundraiser. This year's event netted \$6,300. There was also a Go-Fund-Me asking people to make donations. Raised almost \$4K from the Go-Fund-Me. With some of the DAPP funds, DAPP bought 3 new nets (SWIFTNET) for \$1,300. There were a few other misc. expenses. Right now there is approximately \$9,700 left in the DAPP account.

There are two pockets of money. One pocket is being held by the Durham Parks Foundation, which contains proceeds from past Bull City Opens (BCO). The Foundation is a 501C3. Part of the Go-Fund-Me proceeds were contributed to the Durham Parks Foundation. The other pocket is held by DAPP.

Result of the Recent Poll. The top picks were for what to prioritize are:

- 1) Shade
- 2) Permanent Court Dividers This to be funded with the Durham Parks Foundation + money raised via the BCO. The decision to prioritize the permanent court dividers is because the hole to contain the posts must be drilled before the courts cure. Currently getting estimated to determine how much they cost and if they can be all covered by the DPF funds. In addition, DPR has to ensure that DAPP can directly pay for the permanent court dividers.
- 3) Windscreens
- 4) Seating

Other recommendations: Water Fountain, Year-round bathroom, Rollers, Lights and other suggestions which are available on the DAPP website.

The top picks for how respondents want to see the courts used

- 1) Open Play
- 2) DPR Programs
- 3) Free Public Programming & Tournaments
- 4) Reservations

How can folks participate in DAPP? DAPP is a community volunteer organization with a mission to: 1) advocate for facilities; 2) assist DPR where they need volunteer help; and 3) organize community programs.

Everyone at the meeting is a voting member of DAPP. If you would like to see DAPP do something, then there is a QR Code that lets you volunteer or you can reach out to Sandi directly.

There has been contention with the pickleball community. We understand there has not always been harmony. DAPP is open to questions or comments. Consider this...words about the past are often about blame. Words about the future are about planning on how to make things better. We want members of DAPP to focus on making things better.

Tammy was to talk but she had to leave. Tammy is willing to have a town hall if folks are interested. DAPP can help facilitate.

There were numerous complaints about pickleball use of the courts at Bethesda from tennis folks in the past week. When pickleball players

- do not vacate the courts during tennis time,
- leave trash,
- hold courts without a reservation, or
- leave the pickleball nets on the courts after play

people complain. Pickleball players must be willing to follow the rules.

DAPP would like to find someone to lead a conversation/negotiations with Parks and Rec about rules at Bethesda. We need court advocates. DAPP very much wants like minded folks to help/volunteer. There's lots to be done. DAPP can cover misc. costs (i.e. making court signs, etc).

Elections for DAPP Board members will be held in December. A nominating committee will be formed 60 days before elections, and candidates will be announced 30 days in advance of the voting meeting.

Q&A

Piney Woods Update:

DAPP/DPR/DPF will organize an inaugural tournament.

DPR also wants to have a Grand Opening Celebration. Looking for people who want to be on the planning committee. Please email Sandi if you want to be part of the celebration planning. A lot of effort and time has been put forth to make Piney Woods happen. We need to celebrate.

How can we get back in DPR's good graces? Everyone is empowered when you are at Bethesda to remind folks to clean up, put nets away, honor tennis time, be respectful, etc. We could use an ambassador-like program for Bethesda. Is someone willing to coordinate this program for Bethesda?

There were no volunteers at the time (though some folks volunteered the next day, after they had time to think about it!)

The meeting was adjourned.