

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Mono Tennis Club
Sunday, September 26, 2021**

1 Call to Order 11:00 am

Members in Attendance 21: Peter Gibson, Thom Grace, Gary Wright, June Wright, Catherine Laing, Tim Albery, Patti Powell, Isabella Bakker, Matt Fairlie, Dave Potter, Jeff Honey, Marci Lipman, Ken Pagel, Anne-Marie Minshall, Patrick Minshall, Steph Groves, Mike Groves, Kelly Kamstra, Art Rotenberg, Jan Howard, Clive Hollingberry

2 Approval of Agenda

Mover *Peter Gibson* *Secunder* *Matt Fairlie*

3 Presentation by Karen Rosenbrock, Landscape Architect, on the design of the two new wheelchair-accessible courts and related infrastructure scheduled for construction in 2022.

- Core of plan to build 2 new wheelchair-accessible courts, a wheelchair-accessible washroom, and provide running water to clubhouse.
- Important to link new courts with existing courts and clubhouse; propose removing cedar trees on south side of existing courts to improve connectivity; sidewalk for wheelchairs to run from new courts to existing courts and clubhouse.
- Consider option to build new courts with E-W orientation, allowing for better integration of two sets of courts, and acknowledging presence of escarpment which provides protection from setting sun in evening: consider creating viewing platform on hill overlooking new courts.
- Lighting must be developed with a view to environmental requirement to PROTECT THE NIGHT SKY.
- Current parking spaces must be replaced.
- Current timing for plan to be ready by end of November; plan must be vetted through Niagara Escarpment Commission.

Comments and Questions from Members

- Objection to building new courts with E-W orientation given that N-S orientation is most common, with location of sun in morning and evening.
- Objection to removal of cedar break on the grounds that it provides a green backdrop that eliminates distractions during play.
- Counter argument that in addition to facilitating continuity between two sets of courts removal of cedars will eliminate maintenance problem on south side of Courts 1 and 2 where excessive shade prevents courts from drying and promotes deterioration of court surface.
- Will there be any consideration given to designated parking for club members?
- Will washroom be for exclusive use of club members?
- Any thought being given to eventually bubbling courts?

- Does the Board have any sense as to how larger clubs make major decisions such as we are facing now?

Motion (Gary Wright/Jeff Honey)

Before the MTC Board finalizes their input to the plan for the new tennis courts, the members shall be given an opportunity to express their views by email on aspects of the proposal being considered.

After receiving input from the members, the Board shall present to the entire membership options on various aspects of the plan for a vote by email. The options to be voted upon shall be at the discretion of the Board and reflect the views raised by the members. A simple majority of votes shall determine which option is chosen for any aspect of the plan.

Carried 13 – 6.

4 Approval of Minutes of AGM September 27, 2020

Mover Peter Gibson Seconder Catherine Laing Carried

5 President’s Report (Peter Gibson) See below

6 Treasurer’s Report (Jan Howard) (attached)

Mover Jeff Honey Seconder Matt Fairlie Carried

7 Presentation and Adoption of Revised Club Constitution (Gary Wright) (Constitution available on club website)

Mover Gary Wright Seconder Thom Grace Carried

8 Election of Executive 2021- 2022 (Thom Grace)

Thom presented the following slate of nominees for executive positions on the Board for next year:

President	Peter Gibson
Vice-President	Patti Powell
Treasurer	Jan Howard
Secretary	Ann Horton
Member-at-Large	Kelly Kamstra-Lloyd
Past President	Thom Grace

Thom then invited further nominations from the floor. There being none, he moved, seconded by Dave Potter, that the slate of nominees be elected. Motion carried.

Peter announced that the following have all agreed to return to the club next season in the positions they occupied this year

Maintenance Director	Chris Adamson
Website Manager	Rhoda Gryfe
Club Pro	Ashley Spironello

9 New Business

1 Peter announced that he and Patti had recently co-signed on behalf of the Club a Partnership and a Loan Agreement between the Mono Tennis Club and Town of Mono re new court construction. As per the Agreements the Club has just made a payment of \$3500 to the Town and will make a further payment of \$1500 before the end of the year.

According to the Loan Agreement, the Town will lend the Club its share of our remaining financial commitment for the construction of the new courts, approximately \$63 000. The rate of the loan is Prime (currently 2.45%) and it will be reviewed annually in January. The term of the loan is 15 years.

We are not expected to have to make our next payment to the Town before January of 2023.

2 Patti pointed out that Covid has seriously hampered fundraising efforts to date. She reminded everyone of our current Bottle Drive Fundraiser which will extend to the beginning of our next season in May 2022, and asked members to inform us by emailing Peter of their willingness to participate. She outlined several other fundraising ideas which have been discussed at Board meetings this past year:

- Dinner/Dance at the Mono Cliffs Inn
- Hosting OTA tournaments
- Tennis socials with an entry fee and a 50/50 draw
- Legacy grants where a bench, a plaque or even a tennis court could be named in honour of a loved one in exchange for a donation
- Selling advertising space via banners displayed on court fencing
- Membership donations at the time of registration in the spring
- Silent auction

3 Ken Pagel recommended the Board consider purchasing a new ball machine for next season and suggested donations and/or user fees as a way of paying for it.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 pm.

10 Karen conducted a walkaround of the area where the new courts will be built outlining some design ideas and entertaining questions and comments from those accompanying her.

President's Report (presented in bullet form for the sake of brevity)

Membership: unprecedented growth in membership this year despite this being 2nd year with Covid restrictions, and the absence of social programs, competitive interclub teams, and tournaments.

Membership **2021 153** 2020 106 2019 126

Junior Programs

Spring junior clinics with Covid-restricted enrolment had 15 children registered.
Fall clinics have 19 children registered.

Tennis Instruction

Our Club Pro, Ashley Spironello, logged **60 to 70 hours of private and semi-private instruction** this season, a number that is more than double that logged by any of our Pros in the history of the club, which reflects the growth in new members eager to learn the game of tennis and improve their skills.

Unprecedented use of the ball machine this year. Ongoing maintenance issues which must be addressed before next season. Ball machine unavailable for remainder of season.

Court Reserve has proven a great success for the second year in a row, providing simple registration process, easy court reservation, tracking of court use, and communication with members.

Most popular court times this year have been Monday, Thursday and Sunday mornings, Thursday evenings and all day on Saturday.

Maintenance

New club sign purchased with assistance from Town of Mono and installed to be visible from road, though recently relocated to fence.

New safety/security light installed over entrance to club.

Deck has been power washed.

Fencing installed at SE corner of Court One to prevent balls from going out.

New carpet purchased for draggers used to dry courts.

Some peeling of surface in the doubles court on Court Two, though not appreciably worse at end of season than at beginning.

Resurfacing of Courts One and Two not officially scheduled until 2023; however, discussions ongoing with Town of Mono as to whether they might be done a year ahead of schedule when new courts are built so that all four courts are on same schedule.