



MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Sunday, February 22, 2026
Irmo Branch Library

1. A **quorum** was established at 3:00pm with 35+ members signed in.

2. **Welcome and Opening Remarks** - President Mary Ann Lane called the meeting to order and made the announcement that there would be no dues increase for the upcoming membership year starting April 1, 2026. She then asked all current Board members to stand and introduce themselves.

3. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Treasurer's Report - Anne Reynolds**
 - i. Current bank balance: \$44,000. With pending transactions, and projected income and expenses for the remainder of the fiscal year, we are projected to rollover \$36,000 which is about \$14,000 less than recent year rollovers. This is due to:
 1. Slight membership shortfall largely attributed to rain early and late in the pool season.
 2. Rain also reduced income from social events, guest fees, and concessions sales.
 3. Lexington-Richland Five School District schedule migration has reduced the length of their summer break which negatively influenced membership, rendering it as a "lesser value" due to fewer days of summer.

4. Fundraiser efforts tied to the excitement of the light project's completion were curtailed as this project did not get completed.
 5. Due to an as-yet undiscovered water leak in the pool, water expenditures are much higher this year.
- ii. We did manage to complete several capital improvement functions:
 1. Over \$10,000 towards enhancing pool lighting.
 2. Cleaning and painting of all decks and benches.
 3. New SmartAccess lock on Court #2
 4. New commercial ice machine (through member donations). Project led by member Erica Pye who deserves our appreciation.
 - iii. We are presenting a balanced budget for FY26-27, with income and expenses scaled down by \$20,000 each. It does include improvement expenditures:
 1. Lounger and chair repair for the pool.
 2. New umbrella and umbrella stands.
 3. New pool refrigerator.
 4. Replace the sand in the sand filters.
 5. Ongoing refurbishment of clay courts as industry-recommended.
 6. Hard court crack repair.

b. Membership Report - Katherine Keckeisen

- i. **FY25-26 Overview:** Typical membership years do not reflect a great deal of variation. The numbers largely remain the same with about 100 members dropping and 100 new members joining, offsetting the losses. This year, the differential was unbalanced, probably due to the rainy weather: 94 families dropped, and only 72 new members joined. This is unusual and not expected to be repeated. We offset some of this loss by offering special memberships deals to:

1. Harbison Rec members while their pool was being repaired. We staffed the pool with volunteer attendants and no lifeguards with a “swim at your own risk” qualifier. Liability waivers were required.
 2. Non-member participants in our Summer Quads programs.
 3. Winter tennis players in preparation for spring league play.
- ii. Projections for FY26-27: We are hoping to have early recruitment of families by distributing flyers in neighborhood paper boxes. We have enough flyers to share with members if they would like to distribute in their neighborhoods.
 - iii. Member Shelly Langston asked Katherine if the Board had given any consideration to offering INDIVIDUAL pool memberships as is done for tennis and full facility. Katherine acknowledged that this has been requested before and that the Board would revisit this question during regular Board meetings.
 - iv. Renewal invoices will be emailed the first week of March. Members are encouraged to double-check their contact info for accuracy. Incorrect information should be sent to Katherine for revision or noted on your renewal form.

c. Pool Repair Report - Joel Doughty

- i. Pool repairs and maintenance work are already in process or planned to facilitate an early-season opening including:
 1. Pool tile replacement (some have popped off).
 2. Concrete repair on pool edges.
 3. Painting of bathroom walls.
 4. Replacing sand in the sand filters (last replaced in 2016, so long overdue).
 5. One inside-the-pool light needs to be replaced.
- ii. Equipment updates:

1. A commercial pool vacuum (retail value \$6,000 to \$8,000) was purchased on the govdeals.com website for \$250. Joel picked it up while on business travel in Wisconsin.
2. Hoping to replace guard shack refrigerator.
- iii. Volunteers needed for pool opening preparation, with jobs for all skill levels:
 1. Cleaning of guard shack.
 2. Painting bathrooms.
 3. Painting pool edge after concrete repair

d. Pool Operations Report - Debbie Sawyer/Kelly Marlin

- i. Tim Carmody will be returning as our Pool Manager.
- ii. Polar Plunge was canceled since it was during the ice storm.
- iii. Lifeguard hiring will commence March 1st.
- iv. USC will NOT be offering lifeguard certification at Murraywood this year. Guards should seek course for certification and recertification at Harbison Rec Center or the YMCA.

e. Swim Team Report - Debbie Sawyer

Eli Mahoney will once again serve as our head coach. She was unable to make it today but submitted a report (details below).

Please reach out to her with questions.

- i. Swim team registration opens April 1st.
- ii. No changes to swim team fees this year.
- iii. Swim test for young first year swimmers will be on Monday, May 4th.
- iv. First day of afternoon practice will be Tuesday, May 5th.
- v. There will be no afternoon practices on Fridays in May.
- vi. Morning practices will start on May 26th.
- vii. City Meet will be June 27 and 28.

f. Tennis Committee Report - Martha Hanks

- i. **A big thank you to those serving on the Tennis Committee was extended**, and Martha asked those TC members in attendance to stand and be acknowledged.
- ii. **Leeann Wright** was acknowledged as a new league tennis captain who has helped facilitate play at the 2.5 18+ women's level. The women have braved cold temps to start their training and team tennis journey on Thursday nights.
- iii. **Attracting Younger Tennis Players:** The Tennis Committee is brainstorming ways to build younger adult participation/membership at Murraywood.
 - 1. The SmartAccess lock on Court 2 was installed to facilitate a proposed pay-to-play option for a select group of non-members (former Murraywood junior players and neighborhood guests) in the evenings and other under-utilized time slots on Courts 1 and 2.
 - 2. Court booking would be through the USTA's ServeTennis web interface. Players would pay on the website, be required to sign a liability waiver, and be given a code for access.
 - 3. Data regarding member usage of these courts after 7:00 p.m. reveals that these courts are largely unused or under-utilized most of the year. As of August, only 13 bookings were noted.
 - 4. The pay-for-play proposal is NOT intended to become a public court scenario. Rather, the hope is that exposure to our Club will result in more memberships, especially of this younger-adult cohort.
 - 5. The cost of lock installation was \$500; however, once our contract with USTA is completed, we will be reimbursed for that expenditure.
 - 6. Court cost would be \$20 for 2 hours, payable by one person who could collect \$5 each from their other players (doubles) or \$10 (singles).

6. There will be no charge for the lock or website interface for a period of two years. After that period of time, fees similar to those of our court booking system will be imposed. With a two-year evaluation period, we should be able to determine if this is a worthwhile system for our needs. If we discontinue at that two-year mark, there will be no charges whatsoever. We would not need to return the lock; it would operate with a key only at that point, and no codes.
 7. The evaluation at the two-year mark will consider membership gains; benefits to existing members; and costs to determine if we want to continue.
 8. This protocol is still in the development stage. The membership will be notified when all details are finalized and the commencement of the program ready to launch.
- iv. **Social Events:** We had several well-attended events this year. All social events included a Doing Good in the 'Wood component for community outreach and support, including raising funds for Texas Flood victims. Events included:
1. Tacos and Tennis.
 2. Friday Night Court Play.
 3. Wimbledon Watch Weekend.
 4. Upcoming: St. Patrick's Day Tournament scheduled for March 15th. All levels are welcome. Carroll Dent will be providing hot dogs. Sign ups will open on February 23rd. You can sign up with the flyer and banner QR code or on the website.
- v. **Court Improvements:**
1. Light replacement on Court 5: The burned out incandescent lights were replaced with LED lights. The LEDs on Court 6 were re-positioned for better efficiency.

2. The light poles on all courts were inspected for stability and determined to be sufficiently stable at this point.
3. Though considered unlikely to fall over, the wooden light poles on Courts 3 and 4 should not be pole-climbed as in the past; rather, a lift or bucket truck should be used to replace bulbs or lamps.

g. Tennis Court Maintenance - Will Warlick

- i. Appreciation was extended to all the members, present and not present, who showed up for the spring spruce up.
- ii. Thanks were extended to our Court Maintenance employee, Mike Breitenstein, for his “above and beyond” work ethic, frequently working more than his contracted three hours daily.
- iii. Mike and Will have handled clay court refurbishment throughout the year, saving the Club \$6,000 to \$10,000 annually (vs contracting out this work).
 1. The clay courts have been refurbished two or three times this past year, largely during down times and thus not posing any inconvenience to members. Work entails adding clay and rolling it to make it bond to the existing surface.
 2. Another refurbishment will be done in a month or two, and then again in two to three months. This attention to routine maintenance ensures that we have the best clay courts in Columbia.
- iv. Thanks were expressed to members who refrain from getting on post-freezing, mushy courts. The dents and dings make it more difficult to roll down the lines that get raised after freezing temps.
- v. Lights: As Martha stated, we will continue to replace incandescent lamps with LEDs as they burn out.
- vi. Hard court crack repair system (Novacaulk) has been purchased and will be administered when temperatures

warm up. At issue is the 45 year old asphalt base which is cracking.

- vii. Members were cautioned not to lean on the nets; some of our net posts are older and fragile with rusted bottoms; contact Will if you notice issues and he will work to repair.
- viii. Member Tony Reynolds suggested to those in attendance that towels not be placed on puddles on the clay courts as that pulls clay away from the surface. Will stated that he and Mike will continue to refurbish “bird baths” to minimize puddles.
- ix. Member Barbara Sellers inquired about a better shade system for Court 8, suggesting a sail shade outside of the gate. Will said that the Tennis Committee would discuss.

h. Tennis Instruction - Director of Tennis, Sean Northcott

Junior tennis camps and clinics will be run by the same staff this summer, under the supervision of the Director of Tennis. Once again, schedules will coordinate with swim team schedules so that children can easily do both activities. Sign ups are live, and flyers are being distributed.

i. Social Committee - Katherine Keckeisen

The pool and tennis committees do most of our social activities. Katherine offers assistance when needed. Bunco will be scheduled again this year.

j. Social Media Report - Nikki Morgan

- i. Our Facebook following has gained 58 followers. Instagram has grown from 55 followers to 226.
- ii. Nikki will be creating reels that target prospective new members, specifically younger people (ages 25 to 39).
- iii. Social events will be emphasized.

k. Website/Marketing Report - Anne Reynolds

- i. We have donated Family Summer Pool Passes to two school silent auction events: IES Bee-ngo Night on March 27 and IHS Yellow Jacket Club's March Madness on March 28.
- ii. Other local schools will be supported also if they inquire.

I. Grounds and Club Maintenance Report - Barbara Cross

- i. Decks were repaired, power washed and painted.
- ii. Larger fans were installed in the big gazebo - thanks to Tom Keckeisen.
- iii. Tree-trimming around the courts was done to facilitate better lighting.
- iv. Overgrowth around Courts 5 and 6 are now on a regular maintenance/trimming schedule.
- v. New signs have been installed to make parking lot navigation safer. "No Parking" signs have been installed in the circle. A new club sign is being designed by Alex Paris of Another Printer. It should be installed before the start of pool season.
- vi. Members are encouraged to contact Barbara if they see parking lot lights that are out; she will contact Dominion Energy to have them fixed/bulbs replaced.

m. Security/IT Report - Mike Wescott

- i. Wi-Fi extenders have been installed.
- ii. A court cam that will cover Courts 5 and 6 will be installed soon. Member Scott Johnson is donating the camera.

n. Comment from Member Carol Paulson

Thanks were expressed for continued donation of tennis can pop tops that go to the Ronald McDonald house.

4. Election of Board for New Fiscal Year - Mary Ann Lane

- a. The following members have one more year to serve of their two-year term: Joel Doughty, Bill Dugar, Katherine Keckeisen,

Mary Ann Lane, Kelly Marlin, Sandra Penland, Anne Reynolds, Deb Sawyer, Mike Wescott.

- b. The following *current* board members are up for re-election:
Barbara Cross, Martha Hanks, Nikki Morgan, Will Warlick, Deb Werdunn
- c. The following member has stepped forward to run for a two-year Board position: Jeff Davis
- d. No additional members presented to serve on the Board.
- e. Member Tony Reynolds motioned to accept the slate of officers for election.
- f. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by a majority show of hands.

5. Mary Ann Lane adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.