

## **2024 APTA BOARD MEETING GRANTS AND LOANS COMMITTEE**

### **Mission Statement**

One of the major missions of the APTA is to grow the sport of platform tennis. The Grants and Loans committee works toward this goal by providing financial assistance to paddle enthusiasts in all areas of the country looking to develop public access platform tennis facilities and courts.

### **Introduction**

The Grants & Loans Committee meets to review financial assistance proposals two times per year in the Fall and the Spring. The Grants and Loans Committee has member representatives from regions throughout the country. When a grant/loan request is received, it is sent to a committee member assigned to the region. The member takes the lead by thoroughly investigating and vetting the project and grant/loan request. The member works with the Chair to develop a summary recommendation for presentation to the Committee. The Committee discusses the request and votes on the recommendation or revised recommendation. The Committee's recommendations are then submitted to the Board for discussion and approval vote.

### **Accomplishments**

This past year, \$57,000 was awarded in grants across 3 projects in support of the construction and rehabilitation of 7 courts and other facility enhancements.

Over the last five years, \$577,000 has been awarded across 21 projects in support of the construction, relocation, and rehabilitation of 41 courts. The award mix comprises \$362,000 in grants and \$215,000 in loans. \$460,000 in funding for these awards has been released to date.

Over \$1 Million in award funding has been released since program inception in 2006.

Awards approved during the 2023-24 year included:

- \$40,000 grant award to the Village of Larchmont (Flint Park)- Larchmont, NY
- \$10,000 grant award to the Conestoga Swim Club- Villanova, PA
- \$7,000 grant award to the Glendale Lyceum-Cincinnati, OH

The Board also approved the recommendation to award the donated court and associated relocation funding received from Dr. Tavel to the Paddle Courts of Leelanau, Leelanau County, Michigan. The club plans to build a new two court facility.

Looking forward, the proposal pipeline is active and we anticipate several award requests in the coming 2024-25 year.

### **Challenges and Opportunities**

We plan to work with Jen Beringer to update the Grow the Gameweb page to include direct links to the new *What is Platform Tennis?* video, *Growth of the Game* video, and project highlight videos for

Winnetka, Rowayton, and Cleveland. These resources will help potential project sponsors educate, drive enthusiasm, and secure support for new projects among stakeholders and build our program brand by highlighting success stories.

### **Committee Updates**

The Committee welcomed the addition of Barry Nectow to fill the New England Region II position. Barry is the President and lead founder of the Needham Platform Tennis Club and serves on the Board of the Greater Boston Platform Tennis League. Welcome Barry!

Submitted by John McElhenny  
Grants and Loans Committee Chair