

**MINUTES
TOWN OF LAKE CLARKE SHORES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 22, 2021**

1. Call to Order

Recording Clerk, Eliza Hansen, called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM

2. Roll Call

Present: David Aagaard, Committee Member; Jennifer Chrzanowski, Committee Member; Rene Connors, Committee Member; Anthony Entenza, Committee Member; Dorene Harling, Committee Member; Christina Seal, Alternate Committee Member; Claudine Vasseur, Alternate Committee Member.

Also in attendance: Daniel Clark, Town Manager; William Murphy, Parks Director; Eliza Hansen, Recording Clerk.

Absent:

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Recording Clerk led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Oath of Office

Oaths of Office were taken by the following individuals:

David Aagaard, Committee Member
Jennifer Chrzanowski, Committee Member
Rene Connors, Committee Member
Anthony Entenza, Committee Member
Dorene Harling, Committee Member
Christina Seal, Alternate Committee Member
Claudine Vasseur, Alternate Committee Member

5. Organization of Board

Nominations for Committee Chair and Vice Chair

Recording Clerk stated that the Committee needed to appoint Committee Chair and Vice Chair positions; the Recording Clerk opened the floor for nominations.

Motion made by Committee Member Rene Connors to nominate Jennifer Chrzanowski for Committee Chair, seconded by Committee Member Anthony Entenza; Motion approved (5-0).

Motion made by Committee Chair Jennifer Chrzanowski to nominate Anthony Entenza for Committee Vice Chair, seconded by Committee Member Rene Connors; Motion approved (5-0).

6. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Committee Member Rene Connors to approve the Agenda, seconded by Committee Member David Aagaard; Motion approved (5-0).

7. Presentations

a. Welcome & Introductions

William Murphy introduced himself to the Committee.

Eliza Hansen introduced herself to the Committee. The Recording Clerk went over all the documents at the board members seats, including: The Town of LCS Board Member Participation Handbook, printed presentation outlines, and a letter containing all the dates for upcoming meetings.

b. Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Power Point Presentation

The Recording Clerk presented a power point presentation on the basics of Public Committee & Board involvement. The Clerk addressed presentation, living meetings, and civility. She explained the Code of Ethics for Public Officers, the Sunshine Law, and Robert's Rule for Parliamentary Procedure. She also listed additional resources available to the Committee members.

c. FRDAP Grant Power Point Presentation

The Recording Clerk presented a power point presentation explaining Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP), the process of applications, requirements that must be met, and the role of FRDAP in Town owned park renovation. She also discussed the cost share requirements based on project costs as determined by the FRDAP grant awarding agreement.

8. New FRDAP Grant Project

The Parks Director addressed the Committee about the increased interest in Pickleball in the community, and the rest for installation of Pickleball Courts.

The Recording Clerk discussed the reason for selecting Community Park based on bathroom access, parking access, water fountain access and available open space being key factors for the Town's selection process.

The Recording Clerk and Parks Director presented a drawing of Community Park from the Town's engineer company Engenuity, which showed the addition of 2 Pickleball courts. The Pickleball courts in the drawing are proposed southeast of the bathrooms in the northwest corner of the play field at Community Park. The 2 Pickleball courts are arranged side-by-side to each other next to the existing fenced "tot-lot" play area.

9. Audience Comments

No audience comments were emailed, sent or presented to the Committee.

10. Committee Discussion

Committee Chair Jennifer Chrzanowski opened the floor to Committee Member Comments.

Committee Member Doreen Harling stated she actively uses the Community Park amenities daily, and sees how often it is used by the community especially children. She believed the proposal for the Pickleball courts would be at Town Hall Park, she is not opposed to the concept at Community Park based on the belief that Pickleball courts would not directly affect those current amenities used by residents at Community Park. Dorene expressed concern that the teams that practice or play on the play field still use the field, and if this limited use would affect the Town financially.

The Recording Clerk stated that the teams generate no revenue stream to the Town. Revenue is only generated from the rental of the Pavilion. Furthermore the use of the field by the teams generates maintenance issues ranging from small to severe. The Recording clerk also informed the Committee that all Committee comments and questions would be looked into if presented at the meeting.

Vice Chair Anthony Entenza stated that he currently plays Pickleball and it is an up and coming sport played by a wide range of ages and skill sets. The Vice Chair also stated that Pickleball courts can be found at Lake Lytal Park, and Okeeheelee Park, these parks have 6 courts with 4 people on each court at a time. The Vice Chair expressed that 2 courts is a good number, but 3 courts would be better. The Vice Chair's family does use the play field

extensively and sees no issue in the ability for the Town to provide 3 Pickleball courts and still have plenty of space left in the play field for use. The Vice Chair expressed that the Town should look into 3 courts.

Committee Member Rene Connors stated she agreed with Vice Chair Entenza that the Town should look into the cost of 3 Pickleball courts.

Vice Chair Entenza also stated that Lake Clarke Shores Estates was considering retrofitting one of their Tennis courts to a Pickleball court.

The Recording Clerk asked if the Vice Chair knew of any additional Parks that had Pickleball courts.

Vice Chair Entenza stated he knows of courts at Okeeheelee Park and Lake Lytal Park.

Committee Chair David Aagaard stated that Palm Beach Gardens has multiple Pickleball courts that are very busy when he plays, he believes they have 4 courts. He stated as a member of the athletic community he can confirm the rise of interest in Pickleball and agreed with the sentiments of 3 courts for Pickleball.

Committee member Dorene Harling expressed her concerns of parking availability if 3 courts were developed. She stated the Community Park has approximately 10 space including the handicap space. That she could see over flow available at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints but that there is no way to know if the church is okay with such an assumption.

The Recording Clerk stated that the Church currently allows over flow with no issue so long as it does not prohibit the use of their patrons during operating hours. The Recording Clerk also stated that parking updates where a possible option along the north side of the Park with restructuring of the current landscape berm and paving.

Vice Chair Entenza brought questions of repurposing the Basketball courts that are partially used at Community Park to increase parking availability.

Committee Chair Dave Aagaard also drew attention that not everyone would drive an automobile to the park many may drive a golf cart or walk. But possibly separate Golf Cart parking may need to be addressed.

The Recording Clerk stated that removing exist play space or structures could negatively impact the FRDAP grant application.

The Committee Chair Jennifer Chrzanowski asked for clarification on repurpose or removal of existing structures.

The Recording Clerk stated that either repurposing or removing is not an unavailable action but that sufficient proof of the request to change would be required for approval by FRDAP.

The Committee Chair then turned to the Audience for comments, both alternate committee members were in attendance, the Chair addressed Alternate Member Claudine Vasseur to speak first.

Alternate Committee Member Claudine Vasseur stated she had thought considerably about Pickleball courts. She stated she disagreed with the idea of Pickleball courts at Community Park. She stated that space was available at Town Hall Park and she felt it made the most sense to keep Tennis and Pickleball courts together. Alternate Member Claudine Vasseur suggested the concept of a splash pad feature at Community Park in place of Pickleball courts. She presented a packet of research in reference to this idea.

Committee Chair Jennifer Chrzanowski asked for clarification on what pickle ball is and the difference in Tennis and Pickleball courts.

Committee Member Dave Aagaard stated that Pickleball courts are much half the size of Tennis courts, and the speed of the game is much faster.

Committee Member Dave Aagaard asked what the scheduled maintenance is on a Pickleball court.

The Recording Clerk referenced yearly maintenance on the center nets, the dividing curtain, and clips. Windscreens are replaced every 3-5 years.

The Parks Director stated resurfacing happens every 5 years.

Town Manager Daniel Clark addressed the Committee with response to several items discussed. He stated eliminating Basketball courts is not the best option because it is utilized regularly. Pickleball courts are each 30' by 60' dimensions. The Town manager stated that the only available space for Pickleball courts at Town Hall Park would be the grass area west of the Town Hall Basketball courts. He stated the Town has looked into splash pad area has been looked into by the Town and both the capital cost and reoccurring operational costs are very high. The Town Manager discussed the schematic rendered by the Town Engineer showing 2 Pickleball courts south of the play structures in the north part of the play field located at Community Park. The Town Manger also stated there was another place at Community Park at the southeast corner but was more inconvenient to potential users.

The Park Director and Recording Clerk brought the schematic around for viewing.

The Town Manager stated the approximate cost the Town has been given is \$40,000.00 to \$60,000.00 per court. The Town Manager stated that the goal is to budget the project to a maximum of \$150,000.00; this budget will keep the Town's required match of 25%, a maximum of \$37,500.00. If the budget is any larger than the match share increases to 50/50 match of the awarded funds.

Vice Chair Entenza asked if the Town would inquire about 3 courts and present the fact findings of 2 courts and 3 courts to the Committee. He also stated he agreed that the Town's suggested location for the Pickleball courts is a good area for the project.

Committee Chair Member Dave Aagaard stated he also agrees to the suggested location for the project.

Vice Chair Entenza stated that he does believe a splash pad is also a worthy endeavor for the Town's residents, but acknowledges the several limitations that prohibit a project of that type from advancing.

Committee Member Dave Aagaard asked if the neighboring community the Village of Palm Springs has Pickleball Courts.

The Recording Clerk stated she was not certain if the Village has Pickleball but she has heard some conversations about the Village remodeling some Tennis courts to Pickleball courts, she stated she would inquire further.

The Park Director stated that the City of Greenacres is creating Pickleball courts.

Committee Member Dave Aagaard stated that he is aware of courts currently at Lake Lytal Park, and Okeeheelee Park. He also believes that PBC is developing Pickleball courts at John Prince Park.

Alternate Committee Member Christina Seal inquired about the "turn-over" when playing Pickleball.

Committee Member Dave Aagaard stated that the turnover was very quick and a game last approximately 10 minutes.

Alternate Committee Member Christina Seal expressed concern about the length of users waiting to play turns and creating multiple user group backups.

Vice Chair Entenza stated that the game is played quickly that the winning team keeps a court after a game and the next set of 2 replaces the losing team. He also wanted to express he is not proactive in the basketball court removal but wanted to know if that would be a viable solution.

Committee Member Dave Aagaard stated that different parks have different rules for Pickleball court turnover, and play. He stated that some Parks allow winners to stay on the court until 3 games are won then a new team will replace the winning team. He stated that Lake Clarke Shores should produce their own rules and have them at the courts for clarification and fair play. He said that most players expect to wait some time but not an hour or more. He also stated that most play in his experience happens after the average workday hours (after 4 PM). He also stated that the play system is usually play to 11 points, but when there are others waiting you play to 7 points.

Committee Chair Chrzanowski requested that the Town look into other parks rules and help the committee decide on the rules for the courts.

Committee Member Doreen Harling wanted to also have the Town include bike racks available at Community Park as many individuals may bike to the park and no bike racks exist at Community Park at this time.

Committee Member Dave Aagaard stated he believes that many individuals will realize the limited parking even after additional parking is included and will choose alternate methods for getting to the park besides an automobile. Golf Cart parking needs to be available and obvious to prevent golf cart parking in standard parking spots. He also wanted attention drawn to the noise nature of the sport, that hours of operation should be something the Committee and Town looks into.

Committee Chair Chrzanowski asked if the plan was to have the courts lit.

The Recording Clerk confirmed that the Town's preliminary concept does include lighting.

Vice Chair Entenza stated he believes that Community Park is well insulated and has very little residential homes around it.

Committee Member Dave Aagaard stated that Palm Beach Gardens Pickleball courts are open until 10 PM.

Committee Chair Chrzanowski asked if there was a time set for the basketball court feature at Community Park.

The Town Manager stated that all the Town Parks officially close at dark however the Town has no issues with use past that so long as the user are respectful and not partaking in an illegal activities.

Committee Chair Chrzanowski asked what the process for issues or upkeep at any Town Parks.

The Recording Clerk referenced the “See Something Say Something” initiative that the Town promotes. The email for communication of issues is ssss@lakeclarke.org.

11. Adjournment

Motion made by Committee Vice Chair Anthony Entenza to adjourn, seconded by Committee Member Rene Connors; Motion approved (5-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Jennifer Chrzanowski, Committee Chair

Eliza Hansen, Recording Clerk