

VANCOUVER PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION



MINUTES

Richard's Place
August 12, 2019 3:00pm

PRESENT:

Mona Lee
Richard Lee
Catalin Costea

Chuck 2 Jung
Chuck 3 Jung
Anke Harper

Paul Scheffer
Alan Boysen
Guest: Chris Koentges

The meeting was called to order at 3:20pm

		Action Item
	<p>TIM HUNT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wrote a letter to the Parks Board Commissioners <p>Pickleball is a hugely popular and fast-growing sport; many players are seniors or almost-seniors, but it is growing in popularity among young people as well. We as a group are finding it increasingly difficult to find space to play; community centers are limited in court availability, and the infrequent sessions are therefore oversubscribed, so that one has to turn up at least 30 minutes before the start to even get a place. West Vancouver recently opened a wonderful dedicated pickleball facility at 29th and Bellevue. North Van has now followed suit, with the very recent opening of 6 courts at Murdo Fraser Park off Capilano road. We would like to see the City of Vancouver follow suit by designating an area for dedicated pickleball courts. We have access to some temporary ones at Queen Elizabeth park and also at the Dunbar Community Centre, but nothing that comes close to what West and North Vancouver have done. Would you be open to a meeting with the executive of the Vancouver Pickleball Association to discuss this project?</p> <p>ELLEN S. Office of the General Manager Email: pbgmo@vancouver.ca Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation Tel: 604-257-8448 2099 Beach Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4</p> <p>MICHAEL MAROUSEK REPLIED: <Michael.Marousek@vancouver.ca></p> <p>Thank you for your email regarding a dedicated pickleball facility in Vancouver. We appreciate your feedback and are actively working with the Vancouver Pickleball Association (VPA) represented by the Association's President Richard Lee to improve the playing conditions for local pickleball players. You will be pleased to hear that there are two current projects that will add eight courts with pickleball lines ready for next year's outdoor season. At this time, I would like to suggest that you connect with Richard Lee and the VPA to consolidate</p>	

	<p>your advocating efforts. The Recreation team and the Planning team are monitoring the public demand and will respond accordingly.</p> <p>TIM HUNT REPLIED:</p> <p>In follow-up to my previous response regarding dedicated pickleball facilities rather than just lines on a tennis court, check this out. In Red Deer! Please do more than just consider Vancouver pickleball, let's not be left behind places like West Van, North Van, and (!) Red Deer.</p> <p>MICHAEL MAROUSEK REPLIED:</p> <p>Thank you for the note. I looked at the outdoor courts they just opened in Red Deer, they're impressive. New dedicated pickleball facilities are popping up at a lot of places. I was able to connect with some of them to help us guide the process and in the meantime I found out that in a number of instances, it is the Pickleball Association building and operating the facility, not the City. We are taking all the necessary steps in the right direction and it is our hope and goal that we will have a pickleball facility in Vancouver as well.</p>	
	<p>MONA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informed everyone to call 311 to request for permanent nets • Informed everyone to fill out the link on the Parks Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ comment link to request permanent courts ○ improvement link to request permanent nets • Filled out the "Invite the Mayor and Councilors to your event" form hoping they could attend our "National Pickleball Day" party at Queen Elizabeth. Sadly all of them were unavailable. 	
	<p>CHRIS</p> <p>Knows two people at Parks Board. He says the two key elements to note in our proposal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sustainability 2. Inclusivity – families of all ages/wheelchair, multicultural 	
	<p>COST OF PERMANENT COURTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 court is approx. \$2,500 • 4 courts ground up \$120,00 • Courts with fencing \$27,000 <p>Ask the city if money is an issue, if so, how much will the city contribute and how much can we fundraise?</p>	
	<p>PERMANENT COURTS LOCATIONS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strathcona – huge lot, but issues with being too close to houses 2. Pandora – 6 courts, but issues with sharing it with the basketball players 3. QE – 4 courts, best location but issues with needing to chase the ball. No fencing. 4. Marpole – ideal! They are in the planning stages of renovating the entire center. Encouraging everyone to fill out the survey to the Marpole planning committee to include outdoor pickleball courts 	

	<p>PLAYERS TESTIMONIALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris suggested that compiling a list of reasons why people like pickleball and how it brings the community together would be a good selling point to share to the commissioners. • Mona, Richard, Catalin & Anke will send out an email to their entire student base to collect testimonials. • Mona will compile the list. 	
	<p>PICKLEBALL NEWSLETTER</p> <p>Paul will put together a newsletter for us highlighting the following points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedules of where to play • Locations of where to play • Special events • Tip of the day • Medal winners • Quote of the day • Fun facts 	
	<p>SUNSET TOURNAMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pickleball Canada & Morica Sports will be hosting a fun tournament at Sunset Community Center. • For levels 3.0 and under. • Only for the Sunset participants • Small fee will be charged • Potluck get together afterwards • Q&A period to follow – hoping to discuss bullying of beginners to other beginners 	
	<p>NEXT MEETING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 23, 2019 	

MEETING ADJOURNED 4.35pm.