

[REDACTED]

From: Molly Jean Curley O'Brien [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 3, 2022 2:17 PM
To: [REDACTED] BOCS Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment: Peter Springs Park

To the City of Santa Rosa's Board of Community Services,

My name is Molly Curley O'Brien and I have been a resident of Santa Rosa since July of 2021, having lived here once before while attending SRJC in the early 2000's.

No longer a young student, I am now raising two small children in Bennett Valley near Peter Springs Park. My husband and I love our neighborhood, comprised of a socio-economically diverse community of young families, elders, and everyone in between. We walk our children around the block and enjoy the front yards of neighbors who intentionally built fish ponds, vegetable gardens, and tree swings to be admired by passerbyers. Simply put, it is a really lovely neighborhood.

At the heart of the neighborhood is Peter Springs Park. This park has seen better days. Admittedly, the largest footprint of the park is the greenway that spans its length. KinderKickz, a local business, enjoys the field for its soccer programs for 18mo-8year olds. And, of course, the greenway is enjoyed by dogs and their owners every evening year round. This sprawling green space is not the reason I call this park to your attention.

Instead, I would like to point to the playground on the northwest side of the park. I question when it was last updated, let alone cleaned. As it stands, the three-swing swingset only has two working swings. Of those, the two functioning swings are baby swings. There is no seat available for a kid over the age of two to enjoy the park's swingset. The geometric dome climber is structurally sound but the paint has worn, rust grows on the bars, and much of the metal has been bent out of shape. The sand surrounding these two structures (the only structures of the playground) has weeds growing in it.

The small playground at Peter Springs Park needs an upgrade. We have an opportunity, through Measure M, to update the playground equipment and picnic area that is enjoyed by an entire community. Clean up the sand, fix the swing set, replace the dome, and add another picnic table. I'm asking for some small changes that can make a big difference.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing back and the opportunity to work on this important improvement project with you.

In partnership,

Molly Curley O'Brien
[REDACTED]
Santa Rosa CA 95405
[REDACTED]

--
Molly Jean Curley O'Brien
[Pronouns: she/her/hers](#)
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2022 7:51 AM
To: Griffin, Terri; BOCS Public Comment
Cc: Santos, Jen; Tibbetts, Jeff
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] PICKLEBALL PROBLEMS
Attachments: pickleball 2022.odt

Hi Terri – we had not received these.

We do have our email BOCScomment@srcity.org that we encourage people to send their comments to

I will forward all of these to that email box. This way we have documented these specific to the comments and not to a specific person

Thank you
Shelley



From: Griffin, Terri [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2022 7:45 AM
To: Santos, Jen <JSantos@srcity.org>; Tibbetts, Jeff <JTibbetts@srcity.org>
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] PICKLEBALL PROBLEMS

Hi Jen and Jeff,

I assume you probably received this communication but am forwarding it just in case so it can be included under Written Communications at the August 24th meeting.

Thanks,
Terri

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2022 2:29 PM
To: Griffin, Terri <tgriffin@srcity.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PICKLEBALL PROBLEMS

August 10,2022

RE: Parks & Recreation PICKLEBALL
Lessons at FINLEY & HOWARTH PARKS

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to express my disagreement about Park & Rec allowing lessons charged by Adam and free lessons that take up court time during "OPEN PLAY" Open Play is usually from 7am to noon every day of the week. There are a variety of players that work & go to school or are retired or tourists that are visiting our county that look forward to securing court time in the morning.

I personally have contributed over \$1000.00 to help build the courts at Finley Park. I do not appreciate Park & Rec making money on paid lessons at my expense during the "OPEN PLAY.

I am asking for a reversal of any decisions made about court usage without public input. Lessons can be conducted any other time except during "OPEN PLAY"

Thank you for your time on this serious situation.

Dale Hartman

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2022 7:52 AM
To: BOCS Public Comment
Cc: Griffin, Terri
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Concern re: use of PB courts for paid classes during peak playing times

forwarding



From: Griffin, Terri <tgriffin@srcity.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2022 7:49 AM
To: Santos, Jen <JSantos@srcity.org>; Tibbetts, Jeff <JTibbetts@srcity.org>
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Concern re: use of PB courts for paid classes during peak playing times

It doesn't appear you were copied on this email. Thanks.

From: nferrick (null) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 8, 2022 10:38 PM
To: Pitts, Logan <lpitts@srcity.org>; Spillman, Steven <SSpillman@srcity.org>; Boccaleoni, Guido <gboccaleoni@srcity.org>; Cruz, Madonna <mcruz@srcity.org>; Griffin, Terri <tgriffin@srcity.org>; Quandt, Carole <cquandt@srcity.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concern re: use of PB courts for paid classes during peak playing times

August 8, 2022

Dear Board of Community Service,

According to information published by Santa Rosa Recreation and Parks, pickleball courts in Santa Rosa cannot be reserved during peak playing times which is listed as 9 am-12 pm everyday. Given this policy and past practice, we were surprised and disappointed to learn that courses for up to 16 pickleball players at Finley and Howarth are scheduled to begin in September continuing through January during open play hours. Why was this allowed to move forward without input from the original SR/North Bay District Ambassador who has been cooperating with Rec and Parks on pickleball matters at Finley since 2011 and is involved with pickleball players on a daily basis? This lack of transparency is troubling.

Why are the dedicated courts (completely funded by private player donations 10 years ago) reserved for classes while players will then be required to use the remaining courts? That “pay to play” priority is a disservice to tax payers, donors and players who have been using the courts during these peak playing times for many years.

Even with the newly lined multi-use courts at Finley, there are often many people waiting to play each morning. Tennis players still have priority over these multi-use courts thus excluding the use of the recently lined courts every weekend or whenever tennis players want to use them Monday-Friday. One class is currently scheduled to begin at Finley on Monday mornings and another on Sunday mornings when the courts are the busiest. Many players are still employed and can only work pickleball into their schedules on weekdays during late afternoon or evening hours. Classes at Howarth and Finley are offered during that time frame including a 5:30 to 7:30 pm at Howarth on Tuesdays and a 5:00 to 7:00 pm at Finley on Wednesdays. There are many mornings at Howarth when the four courts are filled and many additional players wait their turn during prime morning hours. Using courts for these “pay to play” morning classes will cause even more of an issue. An entire group of long time Howarth players recently moved to RP to play regularly because of the crowded morning courts that are now filled with newer folks who have learned the game. Another group that often played in Santa Rosa currently plays in Windsor for the same reason.

It is abundantly clear that we don't have enough courts to meet the increasing demand. Utilizing some of the courts during peak hours (especially dedicated courts) for classes with paid teachers benefiting, is a disservice to players. **Classes have been successful in the past outside of these hours. Why not continue that practice?**

After the 24 upcoming pickleball classes scheduled between September and January were posted, one long time player met with Kim Hatch to express her perspective and disappointment that she and others weren't given an opportunity to share input regarding the impact of these classes on current play during the busiest hours. She also reminded her that a large number of players signed a petition to say they want to keep open play the way it is. **This has been the status quo for almost 10 years and an understanding between Recs & Park (Kelly) and the players who raised all of the funds to convert the tennis court to the four dedicated pickleball courts at Finley.** Another concerned player also reached out and met with Kim last week. He also expressed concerns regarding the “pay to play” classes currently available during open play and the lack of courts in Santa Rosa to meet the demand.

It is ironic that Rec and Parks is increasing classes where instructors are paid and encouraging offerings of free workshops led by volunteers to inspire more people to play, but at the same time are reducing available courts during some peak playing times. It is worth noting that many at Finley often play with and continue to instruct beginners or those with little experience after classes and workshops. This is helpful to the novices because the paid instructor is only willing to assist during class hours. There are many nuances to the game and scoring that take time to learn and that happens while playing with others who are more experienced.

One ambassador has offered free classes over the past year at the request of Rec and Parks, while another will get paid by Rec and Parks to teach classes. One of the responsibilities of USA Pickleball ambassadors is to organize, conduct, or otherwise assist with “beginner” sessions and introduce new players to the game. Based on guidelines, neither should be paid as it is part of their agreed upon volunteer responsibilities. Additionally, it is hard to understand why there is such a push currently to expose the community to pickleball when the lack of courts is an ever increasing problem with no solution in sight.

Most disturbing is the lack of transparency on the City's part during the planning, negotiating and contracting of these classes. Not one person (except two people who will benefit financially) from the pickleball community was consulted or informed of these planned classes. As concerned long time Santa Rosa residents and pickleball players, we hope to see the current offerings of classes during peak hours withdrawn. Free classes taught by the SR/North Bay District Ambassador and other volunteers are held outside of peak playing times. That should also be the case for paid classes. Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you regarding this matter.

Sincerely,
Nancy Ferrick
Reed Ferrick, DMD

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2022 7:52 AM
To: BOCS Public Comment
Cc: Griffin, Terri
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] PICKLEBALL ISSUES
Attachments: pickleball 2022.odt

forwarding



From: Griffin, Terri <tgriffin@srcity.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2022 7:46 AM
To: Santos, Jen <JSantos@srcity.org>; Tibbetts, Jeff <JTibbetts@srcity.org>
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] PICKLEBALL ISSUES

Here is another one. Thanks.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2022 8:19 AM
To: Griffin, Terri <tgriffin@srcity.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PICKLEBALL ISSUES

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED

August 10,2022

RE: Parks & Recreation PICKLEBALL
Lessons at FINLEY & HOWARTH PARKS

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to express my disagreement about Park & Rec allowing lessons charged by Adam and free lessons that take up court time during "OPEN PLAY" Open Play is usually from 7am to noon every day of the week. There are a variety of players that work & go to school or are retired or tourists that are visiting our county that look forward to securing court time in the morning.

I personally have contributed over \$1000.00 to help build the courts at Finley Park. I do not appreciate Park & Rec making money on paid lessons at my expense during the "OPEN PLAY.

I am asking for a reversal of any decisions made about court usage without public input. Lessons can be conducted any other time except during "OPEN PLAY"

Thank you for your time on this serious situation.

Sandra Hartman