

Rec'd at Meeting 11/5/19  
Item No. 14.5  
From: Ted Alexander

Thank you Council members for giving us the opportunity to comment in this forum. I am here with a group of representatives from the pickleball community in Santa Rosa. We would like to address the urgent need for more and better pickleball courts, and we believe there may be an opportunity to remedy this need within the master plan for A Place To Play. First, however, we would like to briefly provide some background and context for those of you unfamiliar with our sport or the situation we now find ourselves in.

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country, and apparently in Santa Rosa and Sonoma County as well. Just as in tennis, pickleball has regional, national and international tournaments with professional players and a growing audience of fans. In the municipalities where these tournaments are held revenue is significantly increased to local businesses such as restaurants and hotels, which consequently brings in more tax revenue for the city, such as the Transient Occupancy Tax. Furthermore, fees are collected by the local parks departments, and sometimes other associated events will raise funds for local community services. Bakersfield just had their first officially sanctioned tournament and they raised funds for the firefighters union with an auction. A tournament quality pickleball facility in Santa Rosa would inevitably bring in these kinds of tournaments, sanctioned by the United States Pickleball Association.

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Ladies and Gentlemen of the Council, there are many mornings, on weekdays as well as weekends, when all six existing pickleball courts at Finley Park are occupied, with other folks waiting to play. Finley does not have lighting, but there are four courts at Howarth Park that have lights for the after-work and after-school crowd. Often these four courts are also all busy and players are waiting to get on. (Please see the representative photos that we brought today. There are dates indicated, but these scenes are typical for any day of the week. Note that the empty courts are the adjacent tennis courts.) The courts at both of these locations have various problems which make them sub standard. For example, the lights at Howarth are woefully inadequate, with just two light canisters per court compared to an average of eight per court for the tennis players. Another problem is inconsistent playing surfaces on the  
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1 courts at Finley.

A preliminary rough survey of the space at A Place To Play indicates that between eight and eleven regulation quality pickleball courts could be accommodated where the beach volleyball courts are presently planned. Of course, this is not the only undeveloped space at A Place To Play where a quality pickleball facility could be constructed, but there does appear to be space available for more beach volleyball courts near the two existing ones at Finley Park, about a mile away from A Place To Play. Excellent parking is available at A Place To Play, and portable bathrooms already exist. This space is also sufficiently removed from the surrounding residential community that lighting, if installed, should not be an issue.

We have a large pool of enthusiastic potential donors for a fundraising campaign, not just for seed money to create the courts, but also for ongoing maintenance and repair. We are eager to partner with the city of Santa Rosa to create a tournament quality pickleball facility in this great city of ours. *Let's put wine country pickleball on the national map before Napa Valley beats us to it!*



Rec'd at Meeting 11/5/19  
Item No. 14.5  
From: Ted Alexander



Finley 10/10/19 Thu



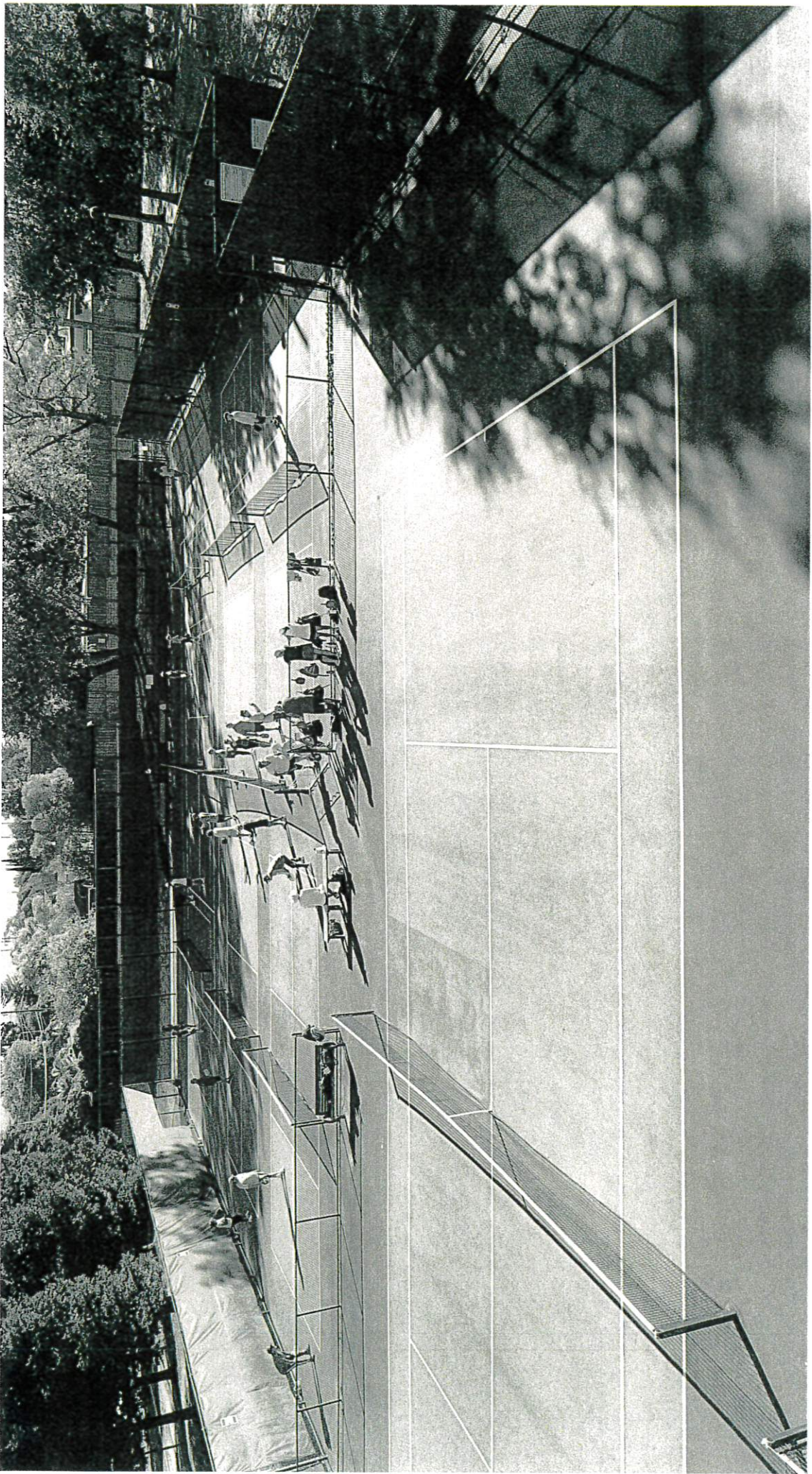
Rec'd at Meeting 11/5/19  
Item No. 14.5  
From: Teo Alexander



Finley 10/16/19 Wed



Rec'd at Meeting 11/5/19  
Item No. 14.5  
From: TEO Alexander



Finley 10/22/19 Tue





Rec'd at Meeting 1/5/19  
 Item No. 14.5  
 From: Leo Alexander

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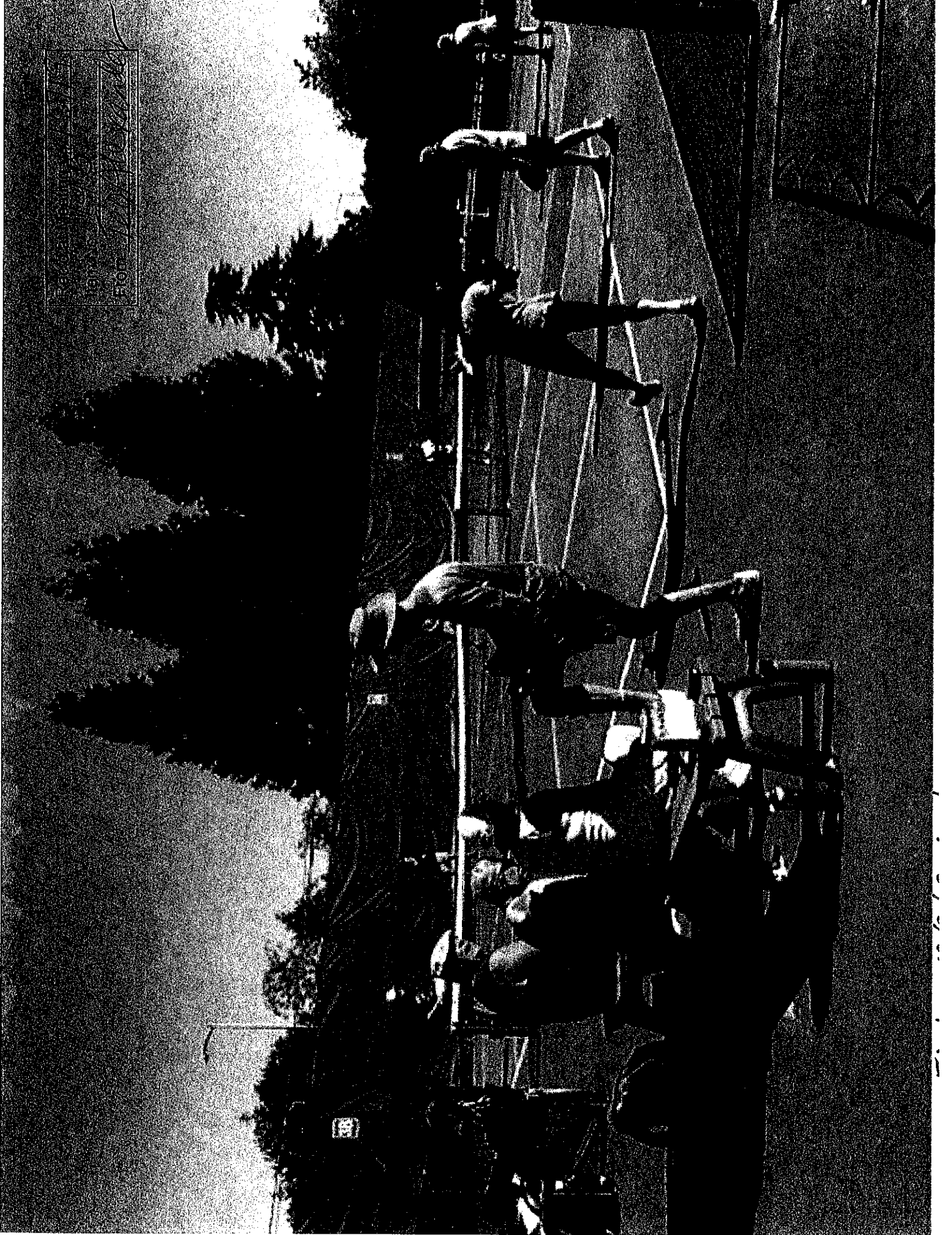


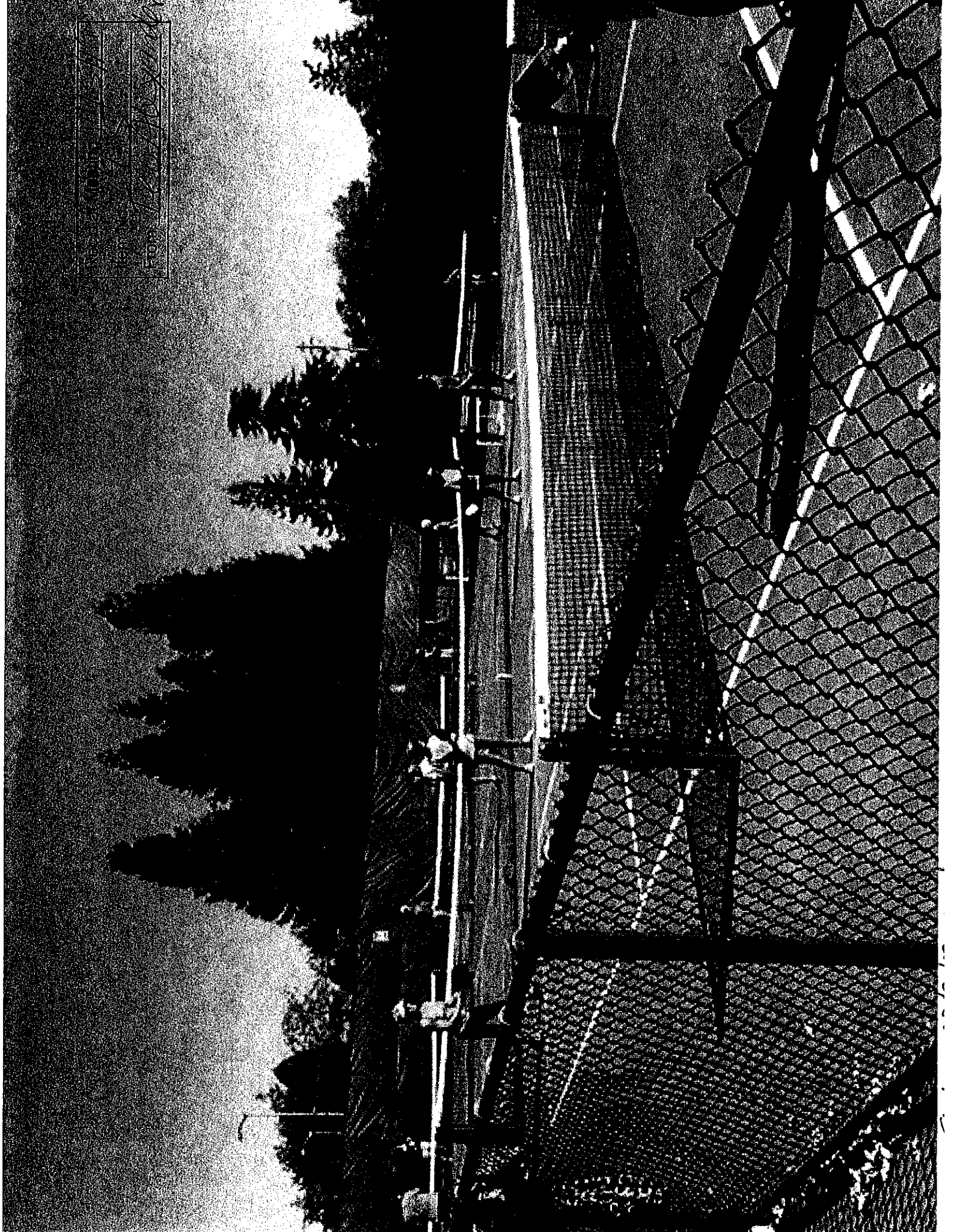
Rec'd at Meeting 11/5/19  
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From: P.O. Alexander

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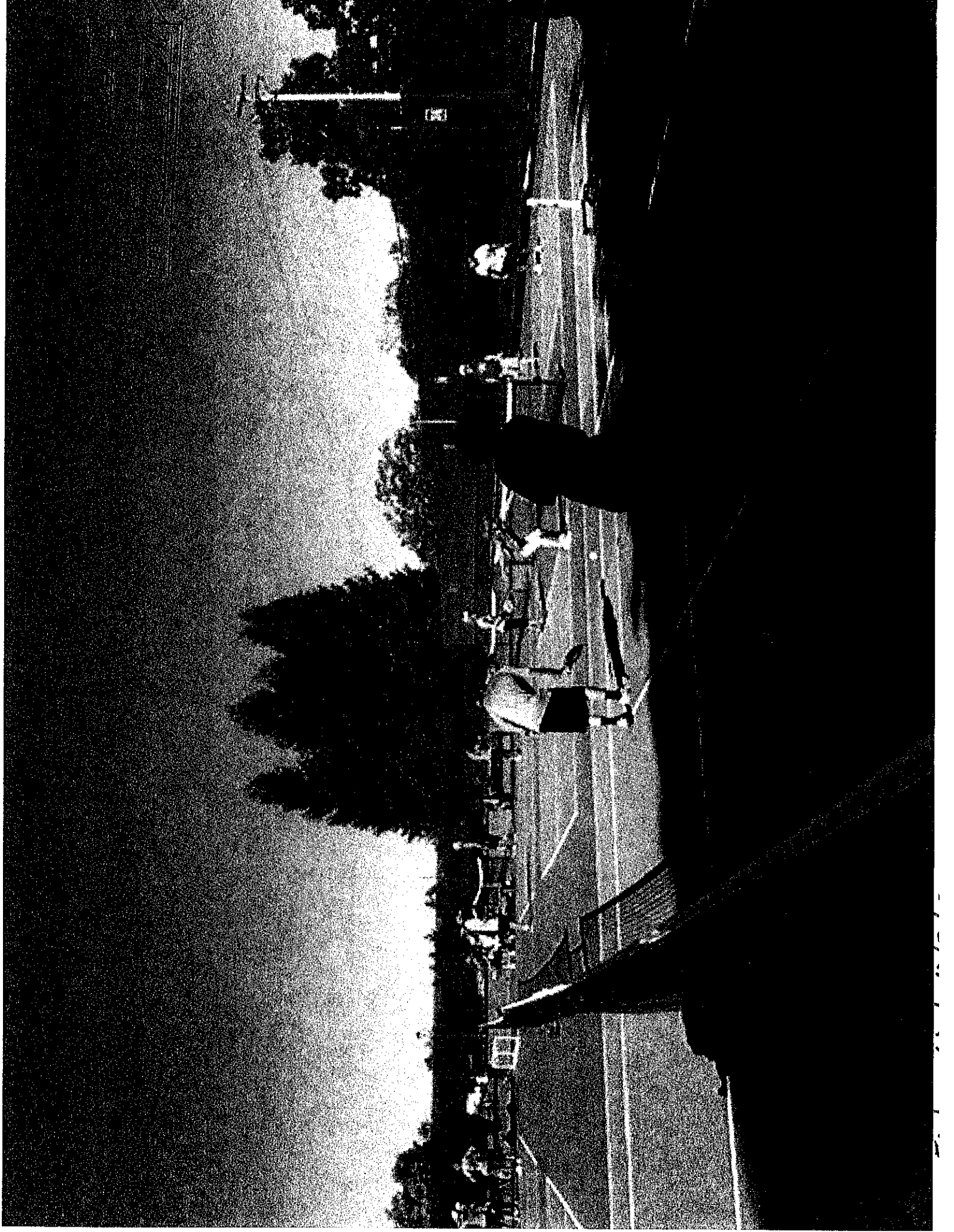
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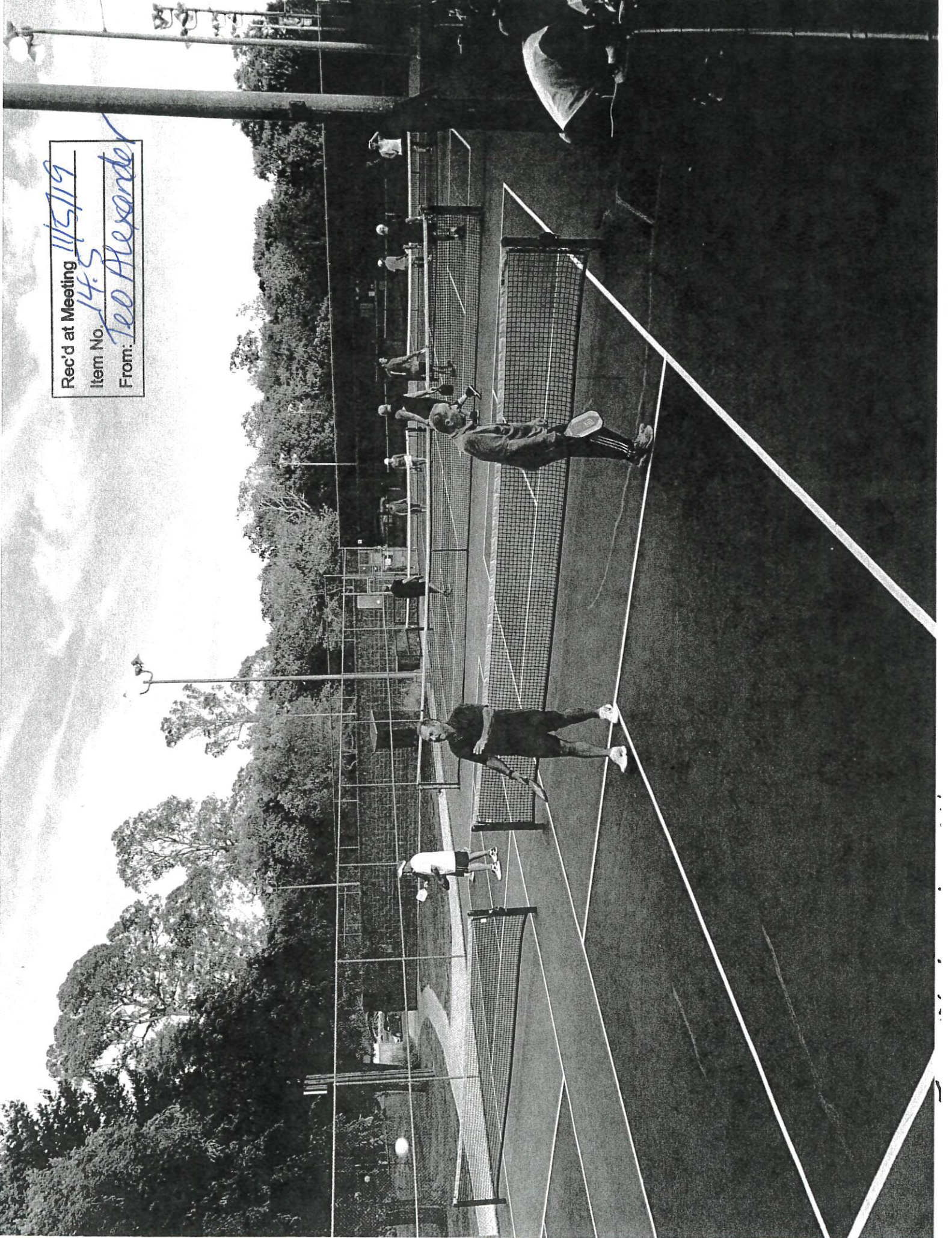
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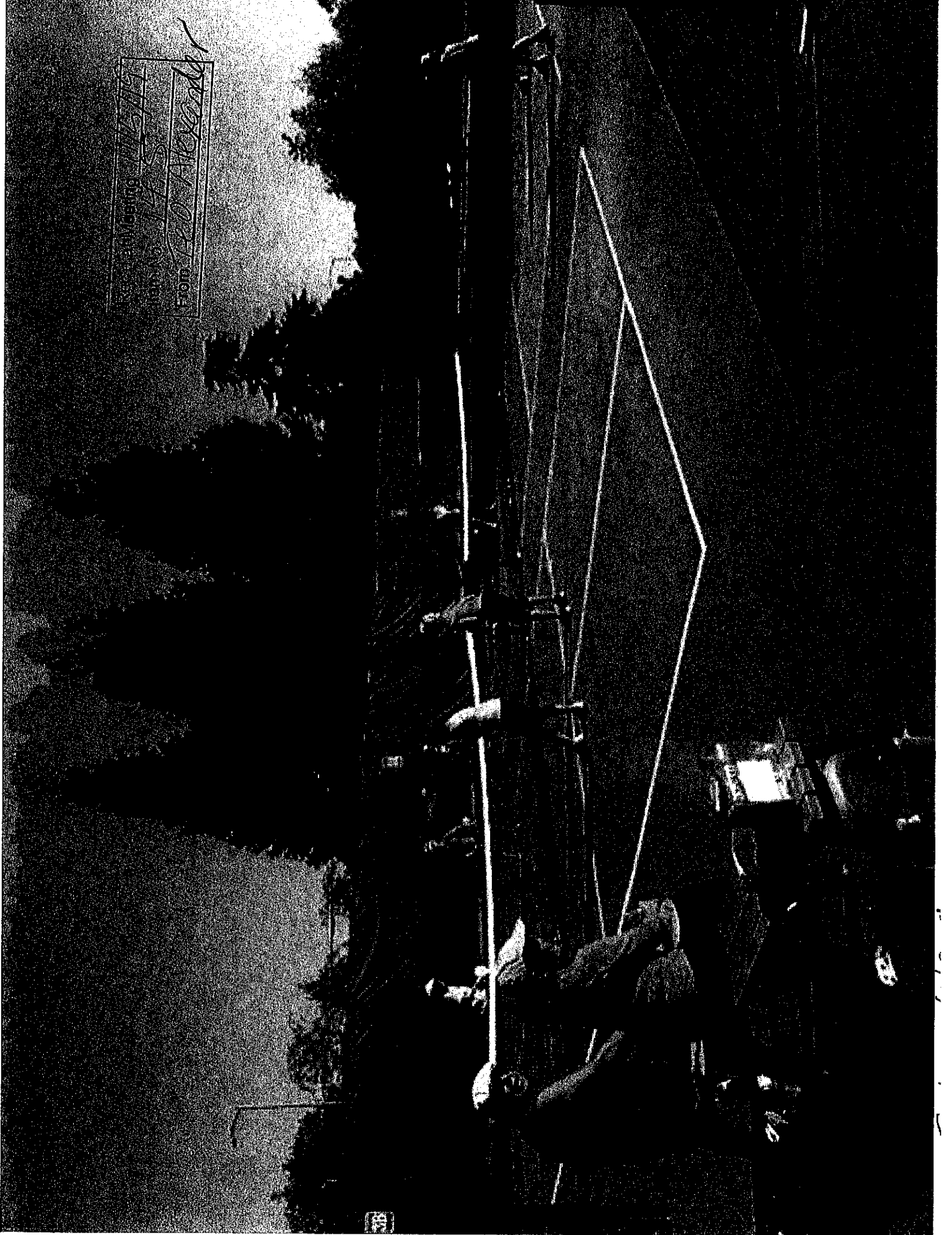


Rec'd at Meeting 11/5/19  
Item No. 145  
From: Teo Alexander





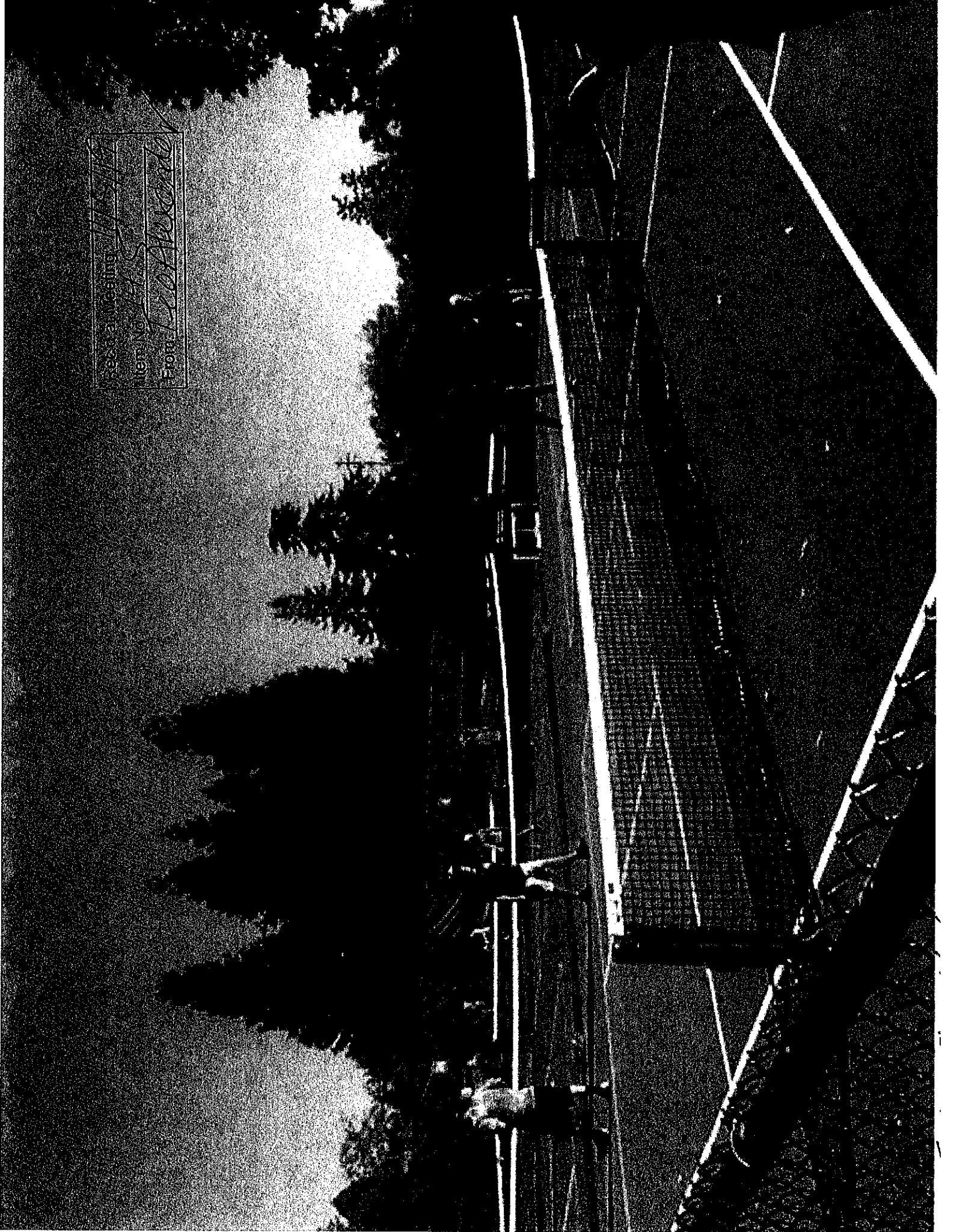
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RECEIVED  
MAY 14 1964  
FROM: [Signature]





**Bliss, Sandi**

14.5

**From:** Mike Janus <mgjanus@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 5, 2019 8:19 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** kathykerst; kenneth kerst  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: public comments 11/05 Council meeting

Dear City Council,

I write in support of your consideration of expanded dedicated Pickleball courts in Santa Rosa. Having moved to Sonoma County from the East Coast two years ago, I have had the opportunity to witness the tremendous growth of and enthusiasm for the sport of Pickleball around the country.

I am always astounded by the number of folks who show up at Howarth park or Finley park to play regularly. Additionally, people from all over the country who are traveling here find us on their phone apps or hear about us and come to play.

With the large number of tournaments forming and the rapidly expanding interest in the sport, it seems that Santa Rosa is ideally situated to take advantage of existing and future popularity of the game. The benefits are clear. Fitness and collegiality for a recreationally underserved segment of the population. Financial benefits for the tourism industry as people join us for tournaments or daily play.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Janus,  
Windsor.

—  
Mike Janus  
301.221.3691



**Bliss, Sandi**

14.5

**From:** kenneth kerst <kakerst@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 5, 2019 8:57 AM  
**To:** Mike Janus  
**Cc:** City Clerk; kathykerst  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: public comments 11/05 Council meeting

Perfect ! Thank you. Now back to Dominic

On Nov 5, 2019, at 8:18 AM, Mike Janus <mgjanus@gmail.com> wrote:

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Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Janus,  
Windsor.

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Mike Janus  
301.221.3691



14.5

**Bliss, Sandi**

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**From:** City Clerk  
**Sent:** Monday, November 4, 2019 4:47 PM  
**To:** Bliss, Sandi  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickle Ball

Gretchen Emmert | Records Management Technician City Manager's Office | 100 Santa Rosa Avenue, Room 10 | Santa Rosa, CA 95404 Tel. (707) 543-3018 | Fax (707) 543-3030 | gemmert@srcity.org

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Rene' L Bosen <reneh2o@sonic.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 04, 2019 3:15 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <cityclerk@srcity.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Pickle Ball

Please consider Place to Play for PB Courts.  
A way to bring old & young together, in social & play.  
Sincere Thanks,  
Rene' L Bosen



**Bliss, Sandi**

4.5

**From:** City Clerk  
**Sent:** Monday, November 4, 2019 4:47 PM  
**To:** Bliss, Sandi  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: public comments 11/05 Council meeting

**Gretchen Emmert | Records Management Technician**

City Manager's Office | 100 Santa Rosa Avenue, Room 10 | Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
Tel. (707) 543-3018 | Fax (707) 543-3030 | gemmert@srcity.org



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**From:** R J Helow <rjh1@live.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 04, 2019 4:36 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <cityclerk@srcity.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: public comments 11/05 Council meeting

To the City Clerk

I am a pickleball player that plays regularly at Finley Park. As I'm sure you know, those pickleball courts are extremely popular, with 30 – 40 people playing there seven days a week. As pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the U.S., the pressure on court availability there and at Howarth will only become more severe in the future.

I would like to make an enthusiastic request that the town makes it a priority to expand the number of available courts. A Place to Play seems to offer perhaps the best alternative for making that possible.

I know that there are other worthy groups that would like to see more availability for their sport. However, there are very few other sports that have either the current activity level or the fast growth of pickleball. Another important consideration is that the pickleball community would be very enthusiastic in raising money to support additional court construction.

Please make these comments known to the Council.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ron Helow