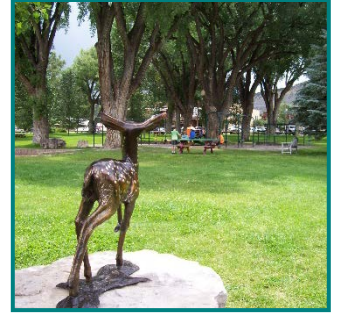

**PARKS, TRAILS, OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
AND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
SEPTEMBER 4TH, 2018**

**6:00 PM
TOWN HALL**



Committee: Jen Coates, Jared Coburn, Nick Williams, Doug Canright, Lois Zeimann, Mayor Pro Tem Eric Johnson, Town Councilor Robb Austin, Councilor Ninah Hunter

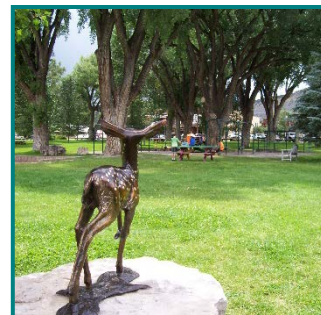
- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of meeting minutes from July 2, 2018
- III. Presentation on placement and locations of Harmony Park musical instruments – Public Art in Ridgway Colorado (PARC)
- IV. Follow up discussion on request to stripe 2 pickleball courts on the tennis courts in the Regional Athletic Fields
- V. Request to place a Hitching Post in Hartwell Park for horses – Mayor Pro Tem Johnson
- VI. Request for town-wide clean-up day – Councilor Tom Heffernan
- VII. Discussion of tree maintenance in public rights of way – Town Manager
- VIII. 2019 Budget and priorities
- IX. New Business
- X. Adjourn

PARKS, TRAILS, OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
AND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

JULY 2ND, 2018

4:00 PM

TOWN HALL



Committee: Jen Coates, Jared Coburn, Nick Williams, Doug Canright, Lois Zeimann, Mayor Pro Tem Eric Johnson, Town Councilor Robb Austin

Committee and Town Staff Attending: Jen Coates, Doug Canright, Mayor Pro Tem Eric Johnson, Town Councilor Robb Austin, Chase Jones

Public Attending: Donna Clark, Barry Zane, Gordon Reichard

- I. Call to Order - *The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm.*
- II. Follow up discussion on request to stripe 2 pickleball courts on the tennis courts in the Regional Athletic Fields
Jen summarized the initial request from the Pickleball Club and also subsequent email correspondence (see attached) between Gordon Reichard and Jen Coates regarding the request. Jen stated there appears to be a new request of the Committee from the Pickleball Club as of this morning in the email from Gordon, including what appears to be an equal and full use of the tennis courts for pickleball, using both tennis courts for 4 pickleball courts, painting of the pickleball lines (instead of tape), no deference to tennis players, assigned times and days for tennis and pickleball players, etc.

Gordon expressed that the tennis courts are more desirable for various reasons including the surfacing and the windscreen and fencing and the request is different to include full and equal use of all the tennis courts.

The Committee discussed set days and times for all players, stripe confusion as not an issue, concern with permanent improvements, encouraging activities for younger people, temporary lines and see how it works for a season or year.

Final recommendation from the Parks Committee:
 - i. Temporary taped lines for 2 courts only on one tennis court;
 - ii. Like to hear more from other tennis players;
 - iii. Pickleball group request meeting with tennis players and come to consensus on use of the current tennis courts and return back to the Parks Committee.
- III. New Business – *none.*
- IV. Adjourn – *the meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm.*

From: Gordon Reichard
To: [Jennifer Coates](#)
Subject: Tennis and Pickleball Coexist
Date: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 3:32:23 PM

Jen,

Here is a video that explains how tennis and pickleball coexisted in a private tennis club. Also, I was watching a pickleball instructional video last week that was filmed at a high end indoor tennis club in Vancouver, BC. Clearly the two sports are very similar and coexist in many, many locations.

Enjoy - <http://cowestpb.com/index.php/pickleball-tennis-can-coexist/>
Gordon

--

Gordon Reichard
Ridgway, Colorado
970.596.1282 Cell
gordonreichard@gmail.com

Ridgway Dual Use Courts

Thank you for providing feedback for adding lines to Ridgway's tennis courts for dual use with pickleball.

Name	OK to add lines?		Comments
Donna Clark	(Y)	N	Need better ^{pickleball} courts
Michael Sted	(Y)	N	Pickle ball is gaining in players
Ron Towne	(Y)	N	Need extra courts
Myron	(Y)	N	GOOD BY ME
Duane Longfellow	X	N	Please Lines
Welli Sir Jones	X	N	We love to play + need max courts
Gordon Richards	(Y)	N	We can co-exist!
DONNA JONES	(Y)	N	31 MEMBERS NOW! WE NEED MORE COURTS
Randall Long	(Y)	N	We have a lot of pickleball players.
Norbet Green	(Y)	N	
Joal Weyer	(Y)	N	FORMER RIDGWAY TENNIS PLAYER Good idea. Hope it happens
Lynn Williams	Y	N	PLAY IN CORTES DURING WINTER & HARE IN SUMMER
Steve Lotz	(Y)	N	we can share

Ridgway Dual Use Courts

Thank you for providing feedback for adding lines to Ridgway's tennis courts for dual use with pickleball.

[illegible]

From: Gordon Reichard
To: [Jennifer Coates](#)
Cc: [Donna Jones](#); [Donna Clark](#); [Barry Zane](#); [Debbie Forrester](#)
Subject: Results of Pickleball Demo on Tennis Courts
Date: Friday, July 27, 2018 1:54:07 PM
Attachments: [Scan 1.pdf](#)
[Scan 2.pdf](#)

Dear Jen,

As you and the Parks and Rec Committee suggested, the Ridgway Pickleball Club held an open demonstration of what pickleball lines would look like on one of the two tennis courts last Wednesday. We had quite a few pickleball players show who were naturally in favor of painting the lines on the two tennis courts. The only two tennis players who attended were Rusty and Nancy York (a part-time Ridgway resident) (Jane was out of town). While Nancy expressed she was fine with painting pickleball lines on one tennis court, Rusty remains in opposition to any pickleball lines on the tennis courts.

With the suggested demonstration complete, what do you suggest our next step should be to obtaining improved pickleball courts?

Thank you for your concern regarding this matter,
Gordon

From: Debbie
To: [Jennifer Coates](#)
Subject: Pickleball Lined Tennis Courts
Date: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 7:28:36 AM

Dear Jen,

I would like to write in support of permanent lining for four Pickleball Courts on the existing two tennis courts. You may remember, I fought to line the basketball court 4 years ago. After much discussion about the coordination between basketball and Pickleball, it was decided to allow us to line the 3 courts. Since then, Pickleball has thrived here and has become a daily outdoor activity for our residents.

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport with over 2.5 million players and 15,000 places to play in the United States. Most towns and cities have had to build freestanding Pickleball courts or revitalize old or unused tennis courts to accommodate the demand for the sport. One way to dual use Tennis/Pickleball is to paint low visible lines for 2 Pickleball courts per each tennis court. A great example of this is in Montrose. Ten Pickleball courts were painted onto 5 tennis courts and were used for 2 years with few complaints from the tennis players. The courts are still utilized for regional tournaments. Most of all the communities in Western Colorado have dual use Tennis/Pickleball courts including Telluride, Delta, Palisade, Fruita, Durango, Nucla, Grand Junction, Carbondale, Paonia, Glenwood, Vail, Frisco, Steamboat, Salida, and Buena Vista.

It is almost unbelievable that the USA Pickleball Association, USAPA, National tournament this November will be played at Indian Wells Tennis Garden in Palm Springs California. They will be painting their tennis courts to accommodate 50 Pickleball courts and over 1200 players. Also, the Bobby Riggs Tennis Center has dual painted some tennis courts and have embraced Pickleball.

As for our residents in Ridgway, the addition of 4 quality Pickleball Courts on the 2 Tennis Courts, including the existing painted surface and windscreens, will only increase the number of players in this all generational outdoor sport. Economically, the addition makes sense. As I travel the US, playing in Pickleball tournaments, I am reminded that a Pickleball player will not relocate in an area that does not have Pickleball!! This sport just adds to our Outdoor Menu of things to do and that is why we live here.

I would be happy to reference material for you to read regarding hundreds of communities utilizing tennis courts for Pickleball. Also, I am available to discuss scheduling for the 2 sports. I would also encourage you to look at the Montrose tennis courts behind the old swimming pool to assess the painted lines.

Just a final thought....There are two other options that could be discussed. 1. Apply for grant money to build 6 dedicated Pickleball Courts. 2. Add a painted surface to the basketball court for the existing 3 Pickleball courts and overlay the basketball lines.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Debbie Forrester

USAPA

Ambassador Ridgway Colorado

970-318-1409

Sent from my iPad

From: Mary Menz
To: [Jennifer Coates](#)
Subject: tennis courts
Date: Saturday, July 28, 2018 3:47:22 PM

Dear Jen,

I'm a Ridgway resident (on Log Hill Mesa). My husband and I moved here after extensive research and experience visiting this area of the state. We love the mountains so close to us and the characteristics and amenities of Ridgway specifically. We also like how the town is managed and the thought processes behind so many decisions that the town faces.

Ridgway is not Ouray, Montrose, or Telluride and that's what we love about it.

I've heard a lot of scuttle recently about the tennis courts in town, located at the Regional Athletic Park. What a gem! These tennis courts are the best in a 75 mile radius. I understand that people also play pickle ball on them. I'm a lifelong tennis player and use these courts. While there this morning playing doubles, two other people also showed up to play tennis. I understand that the Chipeta Lodge also has guests that take advantage of the tennis courts, as well as other residents throughout the week.

From what I've heard, there is discussion to either convert the two courts to full-time pickle ball courts or paint lines on them for pickle ball use. I sincerely hope that the first option is not considered. I would seriously hate to lose these tennis courts to strictly pickle ball use.

The club I belonged to before moving here also had pickle ball players. Generally, they are former tennis players who don't have the mobility or skills to play competitive tennis anymore. Our club had ten courts (including five indoors). Three courts were lined for pickle ball use, but did not exclude tennis playing on them. I've seen this done well with appropriate blended court colors. It does take time to adjust, but players of both sports get used to it eventually.

Four pickle ball courts can be marked on one tennis court with temporary/moveable nets (allowing 12 people to play at once). If the town intends to paint lines on these courts, I strongly urge that it use blended colors and only paint lines on ONE of the two existing tennis courts. This seems fair for players of both sports.

It appears that there are four immediate options, but there may be more:

- Paint lines on only one tennis court to accommodate four pickle ball courts (for eight singles players or sixteen players);
- Paint lines on the basketball court for pickle ball use (though I'm sure basketball players would need to comment on this);
- Do nothing and let people play the way they do now; or
- Install a new surface for pickle ball use only.

I hope that if the town of Ridgway is considering a change to the existing tennis courts that it get appropriate guidance from court sport professionals. I'm sure you're aware how much of an

investment tennis courts are. The investment to have them lined professionally for both tennis and pickle ball use is a serious one and should be done correctly to maintain the town's investment in the park as well as keeping the interests of its residents in mind.

I also hope that any meetings about this issue be addressed publically so that all interested parties have a say in the outcome or decision process. I have not seen any meeting notices about this topic.

Most sincerely,

Mary Menz
221 Fisher Canyon Drive
Ridgway, CO 81432

719/684-4009