



Dear Dan,

I would like to request that the subject of adding a pickleball court be added to the agenda for the next services committee meeting.

Pickleball is a fast growing sport that can be played by all ages. I frequently hear from residents that they have to search the area for a place to play pickleball. Our Township is known for having the best parks in the area, far better than our neighboring communities. It would be a shame if our residents had to begin going to lesser parks in adjoining communities to enjoy this sport. By staying right at home, their appreciation of the Township and our parks will grow.

We currently have one area at 8th Ave Park that has been lined for pickleball. However, very few residents have their own net, and so it is underutilized and not known by most. At Maplewood Park, we have two tennis courts. I believe that it is seldom that both courts are being used at the same time. I would like the committee to consider immediately converting one of the tennis courts into a pickleball court. I believe that dimensionally, we could fit two pickle ball courts side-by-side and still fit within the one tennis court area if we run them the other direction. A fence could be erected between the remaining tennis court and the pickleball courts. Good examples of what it could look like can be found at Sandy Pines Recreation Station in Hopkins and on the premises of Ada Bible Church when you drive in (a place called "The Hut"). It would not cost a lot of money to install fences, nets and repainting of the court, comparative to building brand new courts somewhere. We could see how it goes and, if it gets used a lot, the committee could still consider adding a court elsewhere in the community in the near future.

This request is coming from someone who has nothing to gain from this other than the satisfaction of our residents. I frankly don't play pickleball much at all, probably only 10 times in my life. But I see the trend, and I hear the interest, and I think it would be money well spent and would make a good contingent of residents happy.

Thanks,

Jim

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