

Commission Member Reports- April 2018

Contents

Career Center Working Group	2
Underserved Populations	3
POPS.....	4
Sports Group Position Paper.....	5
Aquatics Committee	6

Career Center Working Group

Name

Patricia Trapanese

Member Report Subject

Career Center Working Group

Summary

The group's charter is:

The Career Center Working Group shall develop a plan that defines how APS can open 700-800+ additional seats to the Career Center facility by 2022, within funding already approved by the School Board, while also providing options for optimizing future development of public facilities with in the study area through a phased development plan. They are still working on how to balance short and long term needs. The county board wants options for the site.

There is support to making this site the 4th high school in the future with all the amenities that can fit to create parity with the other county high schools including a pool, tennis courts and a field. Fitting a track is challenging, due to the site dimensions.

There will be a future presentation to the CCWG on field prioritization by Deb De Franco. The Sports Commission will contribute to this presentation.

Underserved Populations

Name

Patricia Trapanese

Member Report Subject

Meeting Needs of Underserved

Summary

The pilot after school futsal program at Randolph Elementary (extended day program) completed its 3rd of four total sessions. The volunteer coaches are Jeff Pringle, Mike Lurie and Lynne Celia from Fire Sports. About 20 - 30 kids attend each week. We have had very positive responses from the extended day staff and students. We are now trying to pilot another four week clinic at a different APS elementary school and are awaiting a recommendation from extended day on sites that would benefit. Fire Sports is ultimately trying to start a futsal league in Arlington. There is already a league in Alexandria.

We are working with Girls on the Run (GOTR) to see if we can help facilitate a GOTR program at some of the Arlington schools that don't have this program. Our role is mainly to help to start this program and the ongoing involvement would be minimal.

We are also speaking the the coaches at Marymount to see if we can get some of their student athletes to help to sponsor a clinic/class at some of the APS schools. This is targeted for the Fall.

POPS

Name

Justin Wilt

Member Report Subject

POPS

Summary

After a brief hiatus, POPS Advisory Committee meetings are scheduled as follows:

Friday, April 27, 8-11am: Privately-Owned Public Spaces Workshop, (location: Courthouse, 3rd floor, Room #311)
Thursday, May 31, 7-9pm (topic & location: TBD)

Not clear at this time is the series of Commission presentations; those may now be coming over the Summer. The SC will enjoy one of those presentations.

Sports Group Position Paper

Name

Justin Wilt

Member Report Subject

UPDATED: Sports Group Position Paper

Summary

After 3 tries, finally scheduled a meeting with a small number of folks to review the proposed Sports Group Position Paper and hopefully reset the focus of the paper to reflect the views of a broader array of sports groups. The meeting will take place on May 17.

Member Report Subject

Sports Group Position Paper

Summary

Having some challenges scheduling a meeting between a couple of ASF people (Greg Patton & John Foti), our own Shirley B., and a couple of rectangular field reps, all to discuss and perhaps re-cast the proposed Sports Group Position Paper. This document is largely a vehicle for John's thoughts about field developments; the goal of the meeting is to align the document more broadly with various sports groups. This document could then be shared with a more full array of sports groups, with the eventual outcome being a statement of consensus that can be used in multiple environments to provide collective inputs about field development issues. Hoping to get this meeting done now some time in May.



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Arlington Sports Commission

AQUATICS COMMITTEE

Arlington, VA



AQUATICS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Don Hesse, Chair
 Cynthia Hilton, Vice Chair
 Janet Eichers
 Marilyn Judson
 Ron Kampeas
 MacKenzie Kearney
 Guy Land
 Diane Romanek
 Kristi Sawert

April 27, 2018

Katie Cristol, Chair
 Arlington County Board
 2100 Clarendon Blvd. Suite 300
 Arlington, VA 22201

Barbara Kanninen, Chair
 Arlington School Board
 1426 N Quincy Street
 Arlington, VA 22207

RE: Inclusion of Aquatics Facilities at Neighborhood High Schools

Dear Chair Cristol and Chair Kanninen,

On behalf of the Aquatics Committee¹, I am writing to address some of the issues that were raised during your joint April 17th meeting with the Career Center Working Group about the merits of including a pool within the footprint of a new neighborhood high school² (NHS) at that site.

STAFF LIAISONS

Helena Machado
 Arlington Public Schools
 703-228-6264

Jennifer Lainhart
 Department of
 Parks & Recreation
 703-228-1809

Please know that the Committee supports the inclusion of an aquatic facility at any new NHS for the following reasons.

- **Educational Value of Aquatics Instruction:** The aquatics curriculum, as currently administered by Arlington Public Schools (APS), serves as an integral and vital component of the County's for health and physical education program. The curriculum teaches safety awareness, develops basic swimming skills, and enhances proficiency at all aquatic levels. It also improves personal and community safety and helps students develop a commitment to lifetime fitness. These life-long educational and safety benefits have justified the inclusion of pools at the County's other NHSs.
- **High School Population Served:** Mandatory physical education is provided only to 9th and 10th grade students, although interscholastic athletic opportunities are available for all high school students. Students in these lower grades spend 12 to 15 hours of their physical education instruction at the pool within their school. The majority of these students are 14 or 15 years old. Internships and other off-campus learning experiences for this age group with options to obtain

¹ The Aquatics Committee is a joint committee of the Arlington County Sports Commission and the Arlington Public Schools. The Committee is charged with ensuring community engagement in the operation and use of the Arlington indoor swimming pools located within the three high schools (hereafter known as the "pools") and with making recommendations on behalf of users to the County Board, through the Sports Commission, and to the School Board as needed.

² A NHS is one with attendance boundaries. Students who are assigned a neighborhood school should be provided the same amenities. Students who elect to attend "choice" schools, such as HB-Woodlawn, do so knowing that they may have to forgo various amenities.

aquatics education at non-school pools is limited.³ However, a number of careers require aquatic skills and business development opportunities that are available within the aquatics program.⁴ Rather than attempt to send students to non-school located pools for aquatics instruction, consideration should be given to leveraging onsite pool operations and instructional capabilities to build internship programs for interested students.

- **Busing is not an option:** While elementary students are bused for their one week of aquatics instruction, busing is not an option at the high school level. In addition to pool instruction, transportation to and from pools at the elementary level averages 1 to 1½ hours. High school students do not have to option to give up this amount of educational time over the three to four weeks that they receive aquatics instruction due to the lack of sufficient elective periods in 9th and 10th grades.
- **Capacity Constraints:** Setting aside the time constraints of transporting students at NHSs without a pool to and from other APS pools, advocates for busing or swapping students between highs schools as an alternative to providing an onsite aquatics facility at any new NHS also assume that buses will be available when needed and that all students would want this experience. More importantly, the growing student-body the drives the need for a new high school is already challenging the capacity of our existing pools. APS now transports two to three classes of elementary students to the high school pools each day. Increased elementary school usage results in less public access and has a direct impact on the availability of space for high school instruction. For example, Washington-Lee instituted “zero” hour aquatics classes to accommodate increased demand this school year.
- **Community Asset:** Arlington has a reputation for superb public schools. This reputation enhances the value of properties in the County, and attendant tax revenue. However, neighborhoods that host high schools incur impacts such as increased traffic, noise, and the like, on a scale much greater than elementary schools for example. Those impacts are balanced by amenities such as sports fields, auditoriums, gyms, cafeterias, and aquatics facilities that can be shared with the community when not in use by APS. This shared use adds value for hosting communities whether or not neighborhood families have children in the school system. Shared usage also suggests that the County and APS should share in the costs of building these assets.
- **Equal is the Same:** The Career Center community has asked that the new NHS be built with the same amenities that have been included in Arlington’s other NHSs. It has been suggested that “same” does not mean “equal”. Yet, the facilities we use to educate our children reflect our public

³ At the meeting, there was discussion about extending the school day from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. to provide students work and internship opportunities, including perhaps working in Crystal City and swimming at Long Bridge Park rather than swimming at home schools. However, this accommodation may not be workable for students at these lower grades. By Virginia law, these younger students are prohibited from working from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. during the school year. This age group has fewer options to travel from location to location, including the fact that they are not able to drive, requiring a longer time commitment to satisfy aquatics curriculum requirements at Long Bridge Park. The number of jobs/internships available in Crystal City that would put students in proximity to Long Bridge Park may not be enough to meet all demand. Instructors may not be available to teach the aquatics curriculum when students are able to get to Long Bridge Park. Keeping teachers on stand-by and reserving space for instruction on the off-chance that a student may drop in would be cost-prohibitive.

⁴ Occupations needing experienced swimmers include underwater welders and demolition experts, marine biologists, water rescue professionals, various careers within the armed forces, and at colleges and universities, local parks and aquariums. The aquatics program at each high school is operated as a business with requirements for management, budget, customer service, maintenance and other skills that are valuable in the workplace.

commitment to equality. Each of our existing NHSs have the same amenities, including aquatic facilities.⁵ It would be unthinkable to abandon this standard of equity regardless of the location of any new NHS.

- **The Need for an Aquatics Facility at the Career Center Site:** The need for school-based amenities can be influenced by social-economic factors. The Career Center site is surrounded by social-economically diverse neighborhoods.⁶ If an aquatics facility is not provided in the footprint of a new NHS at this site, many in these neighborhoods may not be able to afford other options to learn and practice water safety skills. The consequence, as Dr. Kristi Rupert Sawert, President of the local Arlington Heights Civic Association, reported at the April 17th meeting, is that low-income and/or minority children have significantly higher instances of drowning.⁷

We are excited about the prospect to add a fourth, much needed neighborhood pool to the educational and community use assets to be included in the development of the Career Center site. We thank those Board members who have committed to include an aquatics facility at this site and ask other members join in support. The Career Center offers a rare combination of local support for the redevelopment of possibly the only central-Arlington location large enough to accommodate a new NHS with a high enough concentration of students that will ensure the filling of all new seats on the first day. We owe this community and these students the same facilities that Arlington has provided at our other NHSs.

Respectfully,

Donald E. Hesse

Donald E. Hesse
Chair

cc: County Board Members
School Board Members
Kathleen McSweeney, Chair, Career Center Working Group
Shirley Brothwell, Chair, Sports Commission

⁵ https://www.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/HS-Facilities-Amenities_Updated_2_27_18.pdf.

⁶ The Career Center site is located in the 22204 zip code. This zip code is the most diverse and economically challenged in the County. See, <https://virginia.hometownlocator.com/zip-codes/zipcodes/city/arlington,va,0.cfm>. It is home to more than 130 nationalities, as well as the historically African-American communities of Green Valley (now Nauck), Johnson's Hill (now Arlington View), and Butler Holmes (now Penrose). See, G. Stephen Thurston, *Are There Two Arlingtons?*, ARLINGTON MAGAZINE (April 27, 2015).

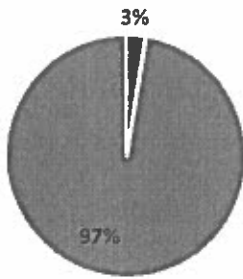
⁷ Studies show that that poor minority children, specifically African-American and Hispanic/Latino, are at a significant disadvantage concerning swimming ability and at higher risk of drowning. See, Julie Gilchrist & Erin M. Parker, *Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Fatal Unintentional Drowning Among Persons Aged ≤29 Years — United States, 1999–2010*, 63(19) MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT 421-426 (May 16, 2014); and Carol C. Irwin et al. *Urban minority youth swimming (in)ability in the United States and associated demographic characteristics: toward a drowning prevention plan*, 15 INJURY PREVENTION 234–39 (2009).

DPR Rentals	FY 2016	FY 2017
Rental League Hours	2,978	3,060
Other Reserved Hours	109,629	127,971
Total Reserved Hours	112,607	131,031
Rental League Revenue	\$ 217,492.00	\$ 206,258.00
Other Revenue	\$ 645,129.18	\$ 629,843.41
Total Revenue	\$ 862,621.18	\$ 836,101.41

Rentals Included in this Data
 Rectangular Fields
 Diamond Fields
 Tennis Courts
 Volleyball Courts
 Basketball Courts

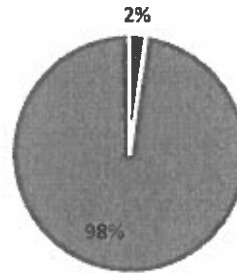
DPR Rentals Percents	FY 2016	FY 2017
Rental League Hours	3%	2%
Other Reserved Hours	97%	98%
Rental League Revenue	25%	25%
Other Revenue	75%	75%

FY 2016



■ Rental League Hours ■ Other Reserved Hours

FY 2017



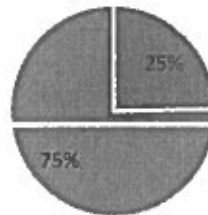
■ Rental League Hours ■ Other Reserved Hours

FY 2016



■ Rental League Revenue ■ Other Revenue

FY 2017



■ Rental League Revenue ■ Other Revenue



Pickleball in Arlington: The next phase of growth

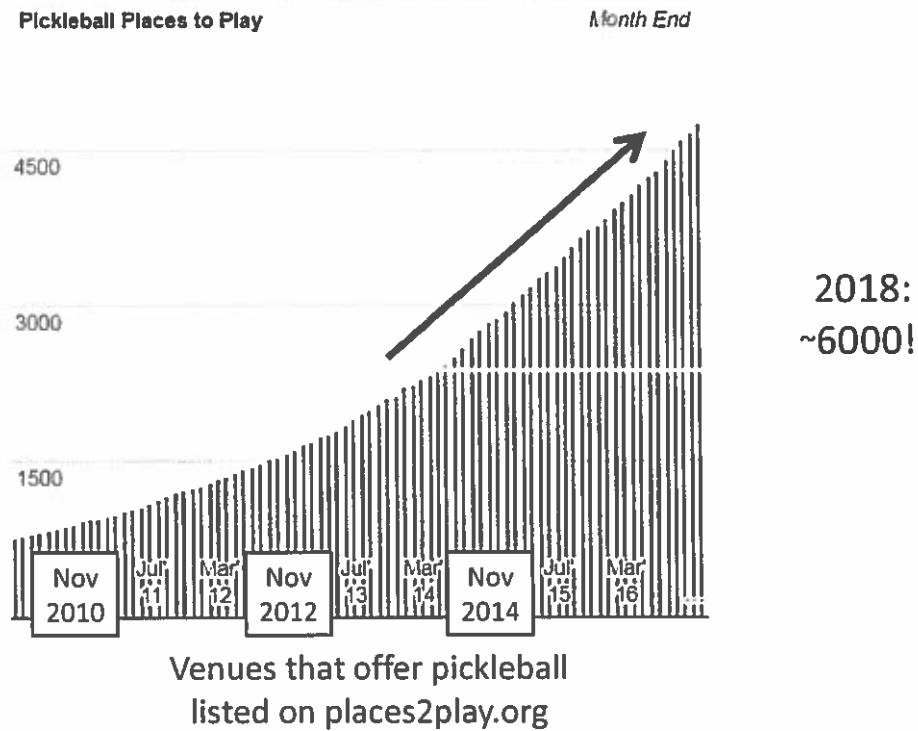
Adrie Custer, Brian Kuehn, Don Tomb,
Helen White, Laurie Siegel, Tim Dellinger

26 April 2018

Overview

- Pickleball growing nationally and regionally
- Data on Arlington pickleball: 2018 survey results
 - Pickleball is vibrant and expanding
 - Our needs exceed existing available facilities
- Addressing our needs:
 - Construct or convert a facility for dedicated outdoor pickleball courts
 - Enable league play, outdoor tournaments
 - Meet demand for drop-in play
 - Eight courts minimum, more are preferred
 - POPS: Include pickleball in list of sports tracked for Level of Service

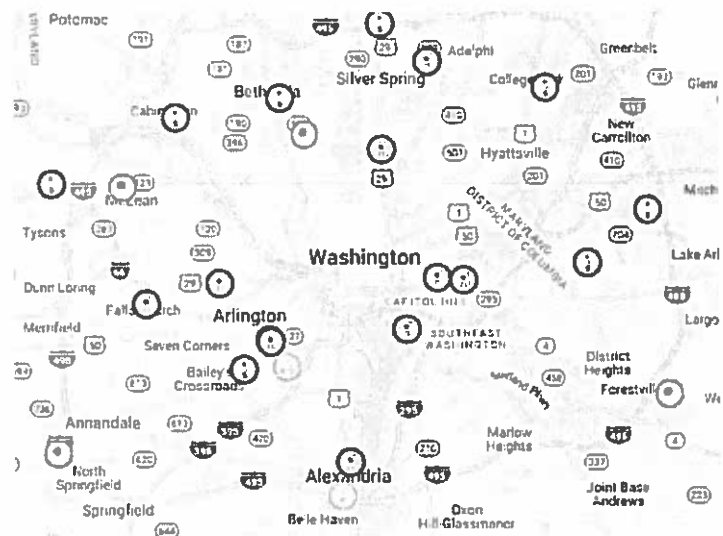
Pickleball is exploding nationwide!



3

The DMV region is seeing that growth

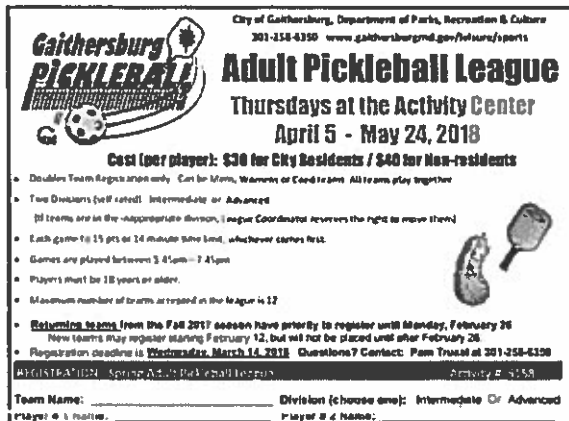
- Over 20 known places to play listed inside the Beltway
- ~10 tournaments annually within driving distance
- Arlington's MAOPT tournaments sold out in 2016 & 2017 – drawing 300 players



4

Regional facilities reacting to demand

- Gaithersburg MD
 - cluster of 6 indoor courts
- Montgomery County MD
 - large pickleball complex planned
 - construction complete within 5 years
- Richmond (Chesterfield City) VA
 - 26 outdoor courts
- Fredericksburg VA
 - 5 outdoor courts
- Annapolis MD
 - Cluster of 5 indoor courts
- Sussex County DE
 - Facility in development:
 - 24 outdoor, 12 indoor courts



City of Gaithersburg, Department of Parks, Recreation & Culture
301-258-4350 www.gaithersburgmd.gov/parksrecreation/sports

Gaithersburg PICKLEBALL Adult Pickleball League

Thursdays at the Activity Center
April 5 - May 24, 2018

Cost (per player): \$30 for City Residents / \$40 for Non-Residents

- Double Team Registration only - Can be Men, Women or Coed teams. All teams play together
- Two Divisions (well rated) - Intermediate or Advanced
- 10 teams are in the appropriate division. League Coordinator reserves the right to move them!
- Each game is 15 pts or 14 minute time limit, whichever comes first.
- Games are played between 3:45pm - 7:45pm
- Players must be 18 years or older.
- Maximum number of teams as reported in the League is 12
- **Returning teams from the Fall 2017 season have priority to register until Monday, February 26**
New teams may register starting February 12, but will not be placed until after February 26
- Registration deadline is **Wednesday, March 14, 2018**. Questions? Contact: Pam Truesd at 301-258-4350

REGISTRATION: Spring Adult Pickleball League Activity @ 3158

Team Name: _____ Division (choose one): Intermediate Advanced
Player # 1 Name: _____ Player # 4 Name: _____

- Danville VA
 - 6 outdoor courts
- Bedford VA
 - Cluster of 5 indoor courts

Clusters of courts allow league play and tournaments in other communities in our region.

5

Regional outreach

Largest DMV health & fitness expo – 85,000 attendees

PICKLEBALL AT THE EXPO!

DO YOU WANT TO GET IN SHAPE WHILE HAVING FUN?

ARE YOU CURIOUS ABOUT AMERICA'S FASTEST GROWING SPORT? JOIN US!

- Live Demonstrations
- Skills Clinics
- Drop In Play

NBC 4 & T
Health & Fitness
expo 25TH ANNIVERSARY
MARCH 10-11, 2018



6

Pickleball in Arlington County

- Pickleball has been played here since the early 90's, and has been growing ever since
- Today: we're bursting at the seams
 - We have a well-developed playing community
 - All skill levels (beginners to advanced tournament players)
 - Ages range from 20's – 80's
 - Our players win medals at major tournaments
 - Our community has a national reputation
 - Players who are travelling here for their jobs or vacations bring their paddles in order to play with us
 - There's always a waiting list to play...
 - Overcrowded in ways that we don't see with other sports

7

Culture of Pickleball

A welcoming community

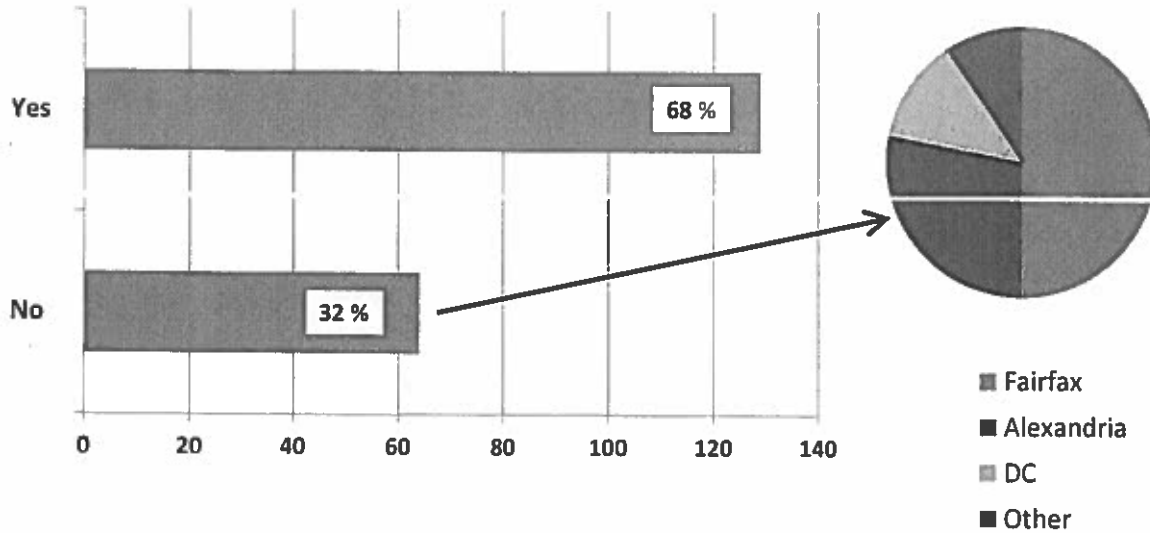
- Drop-in play is the most common format:
 - All are invited. Show up if you can, no need to RSVP
 - Having many courts together in a cluster is much more valuable than having single courts dispersed around the county
- Ladder leagues
 - Provide weekly formal, structured competitive play
 - Players rise or fall on the ladder based on performance, to be matched with others of their skill level
- Tournaments
 - Divided into skill levels and age levels
 - Medals awarded to winners

8

Survey Results

In February 2018, we circulated a survey to the Arlington pickleball community. We received N=193 responses.

Arlington resident?

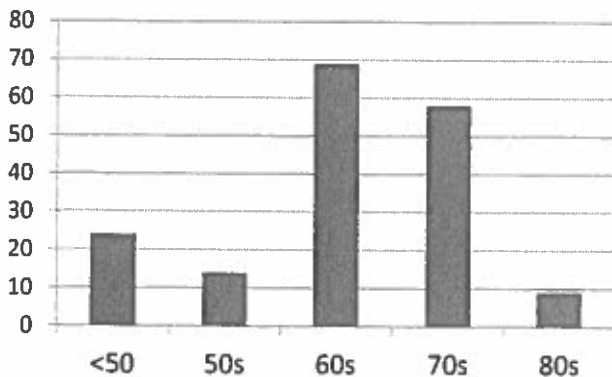


9

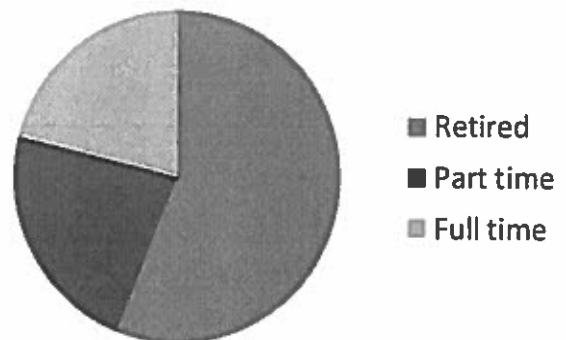
Survey Results

Demographics

Age



Employment status

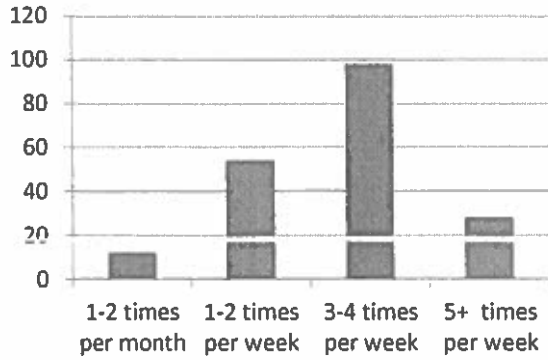


*A solid base of age 55+ retired players
with a healthy and growing contingent of younger players*

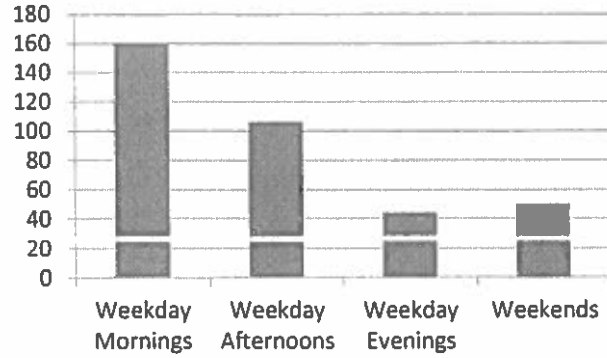
Survey Results

Play habits

How often?



Which days?



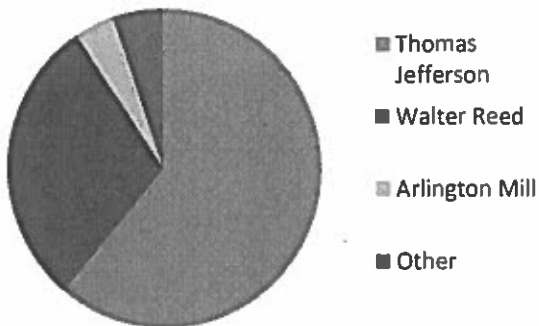
Pickleball is an important part of the community's active, healthy lifestyle

11

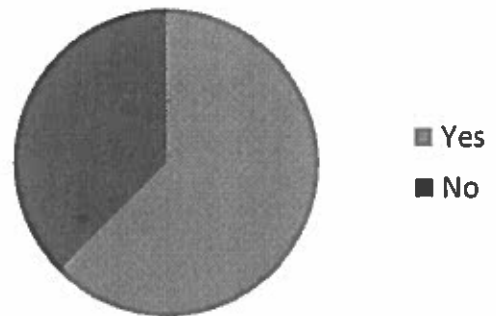
Survey Results

Play habits

What is your home court?



Do you play at other places?



Walter Reed players → Arlington Mill
(WR is closed on Wed)

Old Glebe : 28

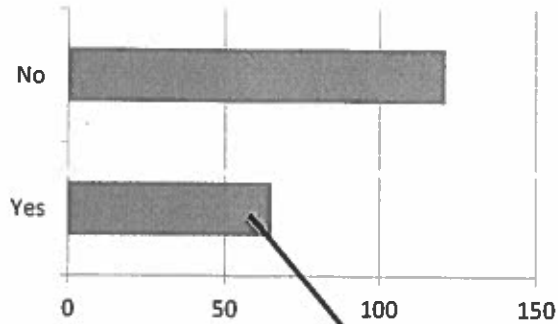
Langston Brown : 2

12

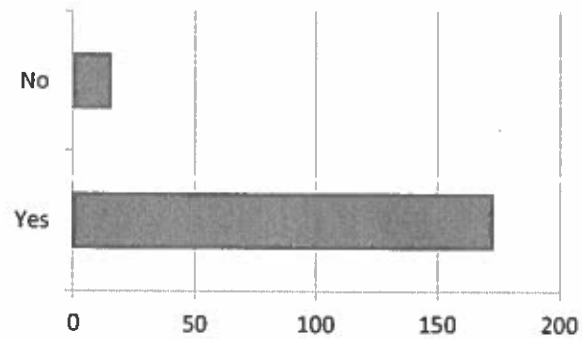
Survey Results

Lined tennis courts vs. dedicated pickleball courts

Do you play on tennis courts that have been lined for pickleball?



Would you play on dedicated pickleball courts?



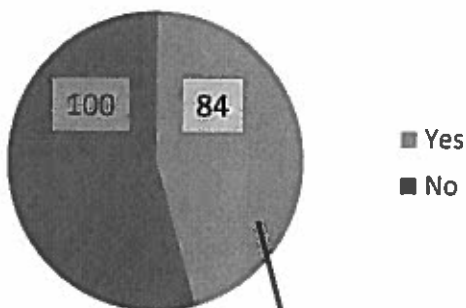
Walter Reed 94% (61)
Fort Scott 6% (4)
Gunston (0)

13

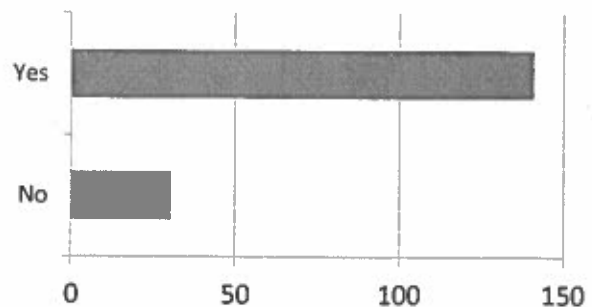
Survey Results

Tournament play

Play tournaments?



Like to see more?



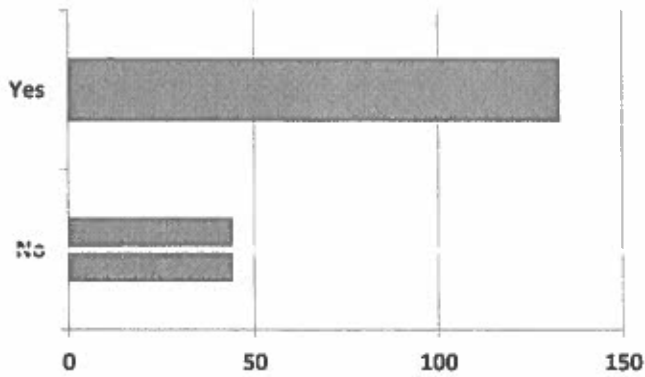
If yes, do you travel for tournaments?

60% (50 players) do travel!

14

Survey Results

Interested in league play?

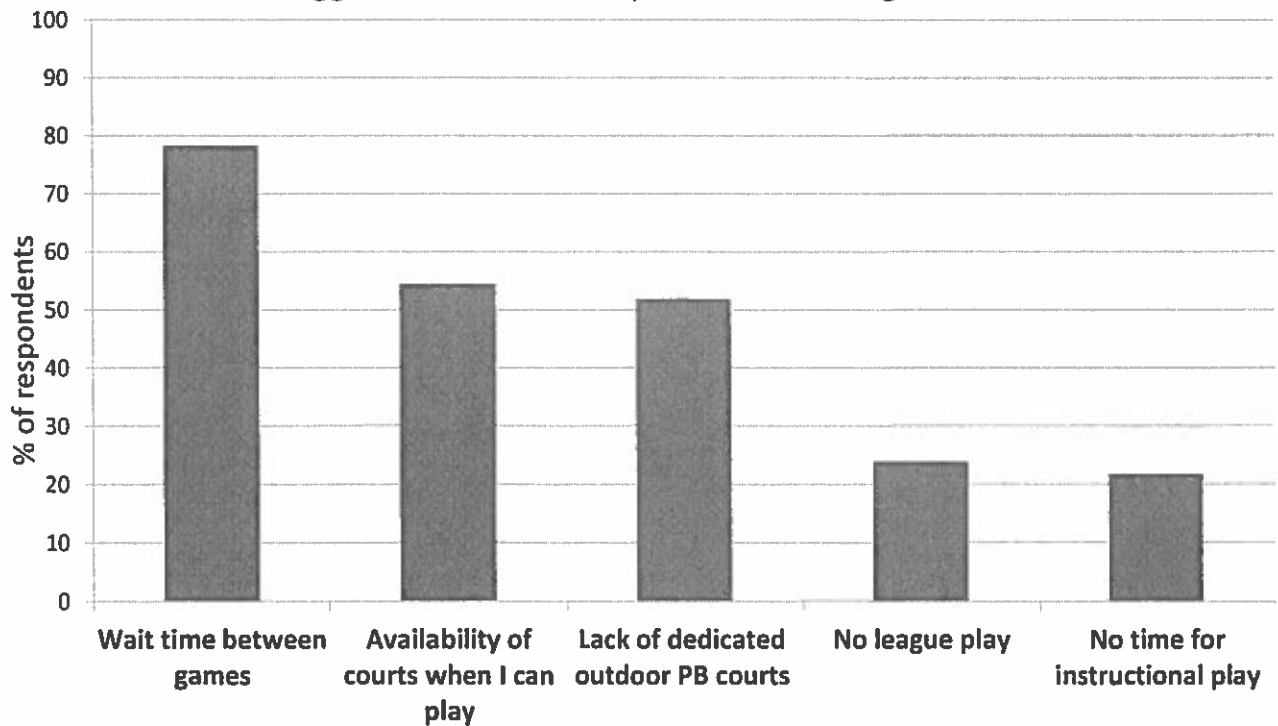


Lots of demand for formal, structured competitive play!

15

Survey Results

Biggest concerns about pickleball in Arlington?



16

Limited Court Space...

- Dedicated outdoor pickleball courts in Arlington: 1
- Tennis courts: approx. 90
- Basketball courts: approx. 50
- indoor courts: crowded, and getting more crowded!
 - *Always a waiting list*
 - *Often only one court on nights & weekends!*

17

Needs Due To Recent Growth

- Increased indoor play opportunities
 - Less sitting around waiting
- Clusters of outdoor courts for drop-in play
- Outdoor tournaments
- Ladder leagues
- Increased opportunities for under-55 players
 - *Often only one court on nights & weekends!*
- Time and space for instruction and drills

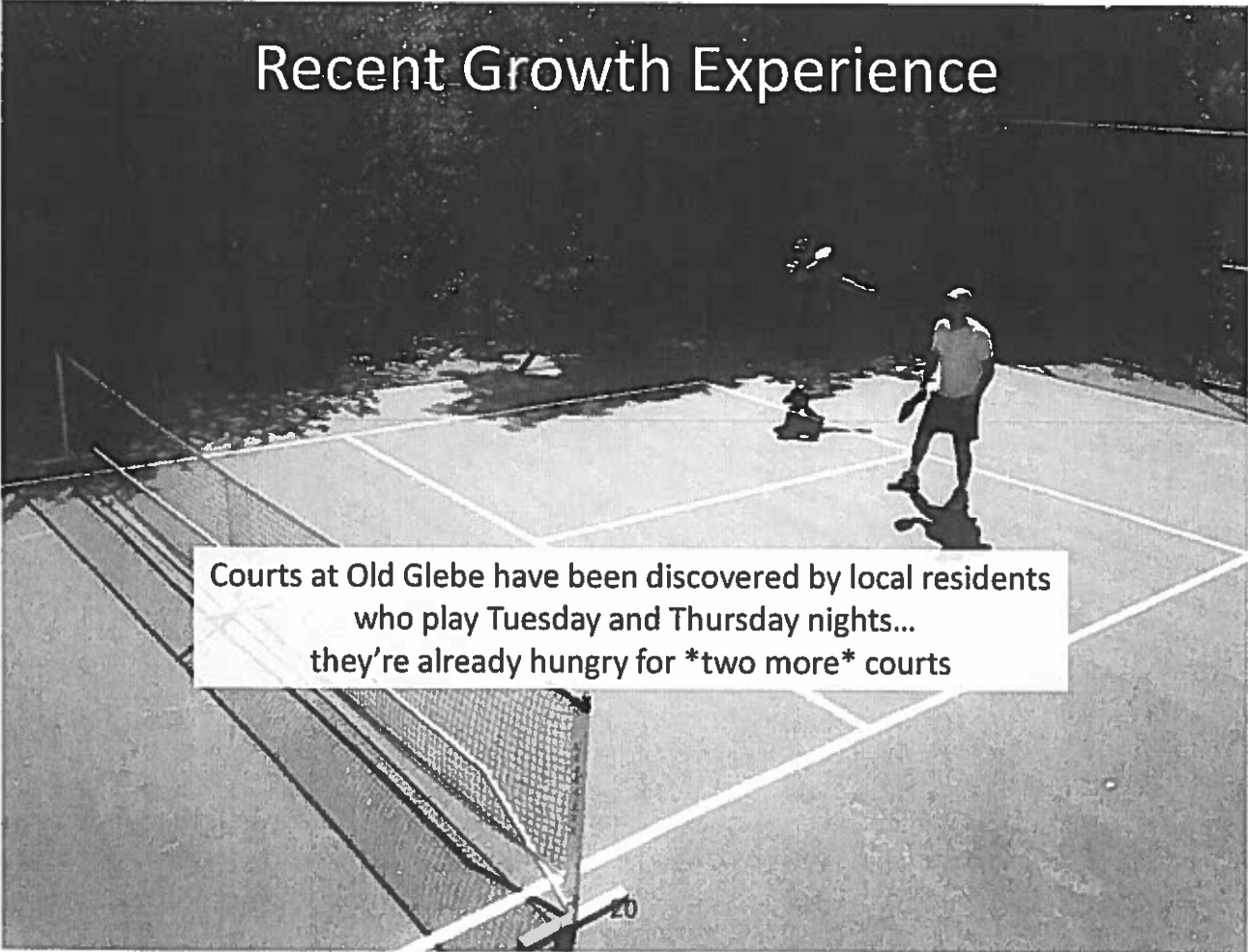
18

Path to dealing with growth

- More Courts, More Court Time
 - Convert Walter Reed tennis courts to dedicated outdoor pickleball courts
 - Increased indoor play: we have specific suggestions
- Improved Communication
 - Each community center has unique issues that limit play
- Other nice to have:
 - Address the glare issues at Arlington Mill Community Ctr.
 - Lower the drop-in admission fee to bring it in line with regional price trends (\$4 in county/\$6 out-of-county)
- POPS Public Spaces Master Plan:
 - Include pickleball in list of sports tracked for Level of Service

19

Recent Growth Experience



Courts at Old Glebe have been discovered by local residents who play Tuesday and Thursday nights... they're already hungry for *two more* courts

20

Projected Growth

Hits the aging demographic in Arlington

- Baby Boomers retiring at an increasing rate
- Important demographic in Arlington
- Pickleball is becoming a must-have for attracting and retaining retired residents
- Provides both social and physical exercise opportunities
- Great for older athletes with reduced mobility

21

Plan to Convert Walter Reed Courts

- 8 or 10 dedicated outdoor pickleball courts
- Has been done successfully at numerous communities across the country with great success
- Perfect for hosting league play, tournaments
- Fits the 55+ demographic focus of Walter Reed Community Center
- Fence dividers between courts to prevent balls from rolling onto other courts
- The culture of pickleball: large group drop-in play

22

Converted Tennis Courts

Successful in communities across the country



A dynamic program that promotes wellness and vitality in Arlington

- Drop-in play (most popular)
- League Play
- Tournament Hosting: small or large – many options ²³

Thanks for your attention!

