



PARKS COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

January 24th, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Arlington Community Center — Council Chambers

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Election of Officers
 - a. Chairperson
 - b. Vice Chairperson
 - c. Secretary
4. Approve Agenda
5. Approve the Minutes
 - a. July 26th, 2021
6. Discussion on adding Pickle Ball to the CIP
7. Open Discussion
8. Adjournment

ARLINGTON PARKS COMMITTEE

MEETING AGENDA

JULY 26, 2021 @ 5:30 P.M.

Park Tours (Meet at the Community Center at 5:30 pm to carpool)..

A) Evaluate Play Equipment

1. Sportsmen's Park- Committee evaluated they would like a sign for the park, there is a stump that will need to be removed, there is an old water line that needs to be found, and a piece of play equipment needs to be removed for safety reasons.
2. Four Seasons Park-The two slides that are broken need to be blocked off from the bottom, want to install a water fountain, and Basketball courts need redone
3. Frenzel Park-want to install a water fountain, need to remove dead tree, a piece of playground is missing, and needs replaced, the trees need a pruning this will be done by Rich Nagel
4. Fairview Park-need to install a water fountain, need to tar around the building and concrete pad
5. Memorial Park-need to install a water fountain, stump grind around the memorial, talk to Larry about doing some landscaping around the gazebo

Return to the Community Center for Regular Meeting @ 7 pm:

1 Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call- meeting was called to order around 7:11pm

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	ATTENDANCE	OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE
Al Ihrke		Kirby Weckworth- City Staff
Bob Thomes	X	Phil Mangis-City Staff
Karan Pichhelmann	X	Rich Nagel-Mayor
Jerry Ebersviller	X	
Gary Hultgren	X	
Mike Christeson	X	
Joe Morgan		

2. Approve Agenda-Motion by Pichhelmann to be approve agenda and was seconded by Ebersviller

3. Approve:

A) April 26, 2021 Minutes-Few changes were made to the minutes. Amy Newsom name was misspelled, and the end time was changed to 7:55. A motion by Hultgren to approve updated minutes, seconded by Christeson

4. New Business

A) Discussion of BB Courts CIP Budget-Kirby stated that to dig up was there and replace would cost around \$65,000. There was discussion on what underneath the tar. Thomes believed that there is concrete underneath but not completely sure. Thomes suggested to dig up a little for the courts to see what is underneath, the Committee agreed. The agreed to this to see if the project will end up being more expense than previously thought. There was consensus to replace the basketball courts

in-kind. The also suggested making the further basketball court adapt to a pickle ball court. The Committee wants to see what Council wants to do.

- B) Discussion of Playground Equipment for CIP Budget-**Kirby suggested that the Committee start to put away money, in order, to update the Playground Equipment. Kirby is still waiting on a quote for the playground equipment. The Committee agreed with putting away money for the playground equipment.
5. **Old Business or Updates-** Committee asked where the picnic tables ordered, and Kirby stated they were. Kirby also suggested that the Committee should create a CIP for water fountains for the parks. He also stated that there might be room in the yearly budget for them. Committee asked Kirby to investigate the matter.
 6. **Other-None**
 7. **Next Regular Meeting: October 25, 2021 @ 7 pm**
 8. **Adjourn-** Ebersviller made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Christeson. Meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm

From: Rich Nagel <rwnagel@frontiernet.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 5:33 PM
To: Amy Newsom <anewsom@arlingtonmn.com>
Subject: Fwd: Pickle Ball

Amy,

I came across this very interesting article in the recent Senior Perspective publication. After visiting on the phone with the editor, he sent me the enclosed attachment along with some commentary of his experience with the popularity of pickle ball in the area.

There is no doubt in my mind that the surfaced area at Four Seasons Park is in need of resurfacing. At the same time I feel we should carefully research what might be the best use going forward, for that recreational area.

I can't recall if this project is in our CIP, or not, but I think it deserves serious consideration later this year when we begin working with the budget for 2023. Until that time, I think it would be a great idea for the Parks Committee to discuss, plan, and come up with a recommendation to the council, for that area of Four Seasons Park.

If you feel it appropriate, please feel free to share this email and the attachments, with the Parks Committee.

Thanks!

Rich Nagel
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jim Palmer <jim@srperspective.com>
Date: December 3, 2021 at 11:36:40 AM CST
To: rwnagel@frontiernet.net
Subject: Pickle Ball

Here is the article.

I have been in a lot of communities and I can tell you that pickle ball is as popular as any park activity right now.

Several communities are adding new courts, improving existing courts or forming clubs. New London is a small town about your size with a booming pickle ball club and have a great thing going there.

Might be a good one to check out if you are looking to add more courts. Some places are converting unused tennis courts to pickle ball courts and some are just putting the lines on tennis courts and gym floors. Others are building new courts — usually 6-8 at a time — to keep up with the demand. It is really popular.

Jim



Sr. Perspective

DECEMBER 2021

vol. 29 no. 3-RV

srperspective.com

RIVER edition

GRAB ONE • I'M FREE!

Family brings Christmas story alive

BY SCOTT THOMA
scott@thomabooks.com

Amanda Hilbrands was trying to think of a Christmas event that she and her husband, Mark, could take their daughter, Kinslee, to a couple of years ago.

"I grew up in Marshall and one of my best memories of Christmas was going to the Deutz Barn, where they used to have a Christmas program called 'Jewels of the North Land' with a live nativity and Mass in their barn every year," Amanda said. "I really enjoyed that. There wasn't anything like that around here."

The Hilbrands currently operate a cattle company north of Clara City. Each year, they hold two cattle production sales at their farm, one in early December and the other in April.

"After a sale in 2018 I was looking around the barn, which was already all cleaned out and decorated, and I told Mark I was going to have a Christmas



The Living Nativity is performed in front of over 200 people in the heated barn at the farm of Marj and Amanda Hilbrands in 2019. The family wanted to offer the community a show that showed the true meaning of Christmas at no cost. *Contributed photo*

More HILBRANDS on PAGE 11

A pickleball 'pioneer'

Bloomington man was one of the first to promote the sport in Minnesota

BY CARLIENNE A. FRISCH
cafrisch@hickorytech.net

Although Jim Klaseus retired from playing pickleball two years ago, at age 85, the former Mankato resident (now living in Bloomington) has much to say about the benefits of playing the game well into retirement. In fact, he and his wife, Diane, were in their mid-60s when they began playing in 1999.

"That year, we went on a promotional trip to a retirement community in Florida," Klaseus said, "where they were showing the game. I signed up for a lesson, so I got to hit a ball just a couple of times. The next year, we went to Arizona and really got to learn to play in a park there. After an

ankle injury, Diane stopped playing, but continued supporting me in my playing."

Klaseus has always been engaged in a variety of physical activities. At what was then Mankato High School, he played football, ran track, took part in intramural basketball and managed the first student wrestling team. After graduating in 1952, he enrolled at what was then called Mankato Teachers College (now Minnesota State University, Mankato), where he earned degrees in physical education and history. He then taught and coached in Tyler and St. James. After a move to Bloomington in 1967, he taught history and coached track and soccer at Kennedy High School until he retired in 2000.

Klaseus continued to be physically active with a group of seniors in Bloomington, playing bocce ball with a group called Born Again Jocks, whom he describes as "reborn athletes." Although most

More KLASEUS on PAGE 3



Jim Klaseus, 85, did a lot of promote pickleball in Minnesota. He recently retired from playing the sport he loved. *Contributed photo*

KLASEUS from PAGE 1

people didn't know what pickleball was 20 years ago, Klaseus had a ready audience when he introduced his sporting associates to pickleball.

"It was a great conversation starter, he said."

And then, there was work to do.

"I convinced the local Parks and Recreation Department to resurface and convert one of two tennis courts into a pickleball court," Klaseus said. "The city administration gave the department wooden paddles and a ball that resembles a wiffle ball. I put a notice in the newspaper, and retirees began coming who had played in a few southern states while on vacation."

The idea took off, beginning with the two courts. Soon, a city council member took up the cause.

"One city council member, a nurse, was interested in healthful living," Klaseus explained, "especially for the senior citizens who usually play pickleball. She encouraged Parks and Recreation to expand the facilities, which they did." Bloomington now has 12 dedicated pickleball

courts (including the first three in the state), part of a trend to remaking tennis courts to also accommodate pickleball in communities throughout southern Minnesota.



Jim and Diane Klaseus at a pickleball event in the early years of pickleball in Minnesota. Contributed photo

The Mankato Area Pickleball Association, founded in 2014 with 24 members, now has nearly 160. The City of Mankato converted two seldom-used tennis courts at Tourtelotte Park to six dedicated pickleball courts. The association provides a storage shed for paddles and balls, a first aid kit, an automated external defibrillator and court maintenance equipment.

Because typical pickleball players are groups of senior citizens, obviously not considered to be a neighborhood problem, the word of pickleball games spread to park and recreation

departments in other communities, where courts were modified for the game. Klaseus noted that some rural Minnesotans who learned to play pickleball in other states during a winter vacation have constructed a pickleball court in their driveways.

Klaseus considered himself a recreational player.

"I never played in the leagues, but just about everybody plays in tournaments. I've played in senior games, but not in regional or national tournaments. I finally had to quit about two years ago because of neuropathy. I'm not steady on my feet," he said. "Many former tennis players have moved over to pickleball because it's more fun and easier on the body. Pickleball went from Bloomington to St. Cloud to Mankato—all over southern Minnesota. A few years ago, Minnesota State University hosted the Senior Games, which included pickleball. It's like the movie *Field of Dreams*. Build it, and they will come."

Pickleball Basics

Pickleball combines many elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. It is played with a paddle and a plastic ball that has holes. The game can be played as doubles or singles, both indoors or outdoors, on a badminton-sized court with a slightly modified tennis net, by players of any age level.

The history of pickleball

(Source: usapickleball.org)

Pickleball began in 1965 on Bainbridge Island, a short ferry ride from Seattle, Wash., where three men are credited with the creating the game. Joel Pritchard, Bill Bell and Barney McCallum, all fathers whose children were bored with their usual summertime activities, came up with a way out of boredom for their offspring. Joan Pritchard came up with the

More KLASEUS on PAGE 9

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KLAESUS from PAGE 3

name “pickleball” with possible reference to the thrown-together leftover non-starters in a pickle boat race crew—or for the family dog, which was named Pickles.

Pickleball has evolved from the use of handmade equipment and simple rules (which rely heavily on the rules of badminton) into a popular sport throughout the United States and Canada. The game is growing internationally as well, with countries in Europe and Asia adding pickleball courts.

In 1976, the first known pickleball tournament in the world was held at South Center Athletic Club in Tukwilo, Wash. In 1984, the U.S. Amateur Pickleball Association was organized for the advancement of pickleball at the national level, and the first rulebook was published. Only six years later, pickleball was being played in all 50 states. By 1999, the first pickleball internet website, Pickleball Stuff, was launched.

Despite the increasing popularity of the game, it wasn't until 2008 that the first mass media exposure for the

sport came on ABC's “Good Morning America.” The following year, the first USA Pickleball Association National Tournament for players of all ages drew nearly 400 players from 26 states and several Canadian provinces.

The year 2010 was a landmark year worldwide for pickleball—the International Federation of Pickleball was established. Within six years, the federation had grown to 17,000 members and created a national certified referee certification program. That year, Pickleball

Magazine was launched to keep those members connected with one another and aware of new possibilities. The sport's first historical book was published in 2018, History of Pickleball, More Than 50 Years of Fun.

In 2020, the U.S. Amateur Pickleball Association was renamed USAPickleball. There are now nearly 8,500 locations on their “places to play” map, including community centers, physical education facilities and retirement communities throughout the United States.



Jim and Diane Klaesus of Bloomington at a pickleball event. Contributed photo

HUTCHINSON
Farmers Market

Winter Markets

AT THE DEPOT

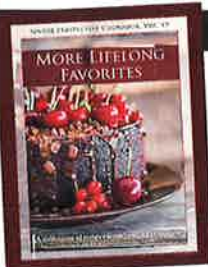
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Saturdays 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

December 11 | February 5 | March 5 | April 2

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