

Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2015

1. Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call

The Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2015, at the Council Chambers located at 707 W. Acequia, Visalia, California. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carla Calhoun at 5:30 pm.

Present: Carla Calhoun, Lesa Mann, Shann Blue, Jason Kent, Ben Filiponi, George Shelton, and Peter Thomas

Guests: Steve Canada, of the HLA Group, Bill Huott

Staff: Vincent Elizondo, Jeannie Greenwood, Jeff Fultz, Tim Skobel, Jason Glick, Doug Damko, and Brenda Miernik

- 2. Review and Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, May 19, 2015.** Commissioner Mann moved to approve the minutes as they were presented. Commissioner Calhoun seconded the motion.

MOTION

Motion passed 5 -0

- 3. Public Comment:** Mr. Bill Huott congratulated Commissioner Mann for her dedication and service over the years. He commented on the First 5 grant, which will provide playground equipment for Oval Park. He sent thanks to Ms. Carol Hays, Executive Director of the Parks & Recreation Foundation, for her diligent work on the grant. He said he is happy about a park being created at Houston Elementary.

- 4. Recognition of Commissioner Mann for Nine Years of Dedicated Service on the Visalia Parks & Recreation Commission.** Mr. Elizondo, Director, Parks and Recreation, commended Commissioner Mann on a job well done and presented her with a plaque for 9 years of service to the City of Visalia. He said she is terming out and has been an engaging Commissioner at Special Events, classes, and to the Senior Advisory Committee. He noted that she has been a successful advocate of banning smoking in our parks and creating healthy lifestyle standards for the City. Commissioner Mann began her tenure in 2007 and has attended over 100 commission meetings. She participated in the planning and openings of Riverway Sports Park, Burke Park, Perry Family Park, Soroptimist Park, and Lions Park. He presented her with a plaque from Parks and Recreation and the Visalia City Council.

Commissioner Mann said it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as commissioner for nine years. She said everything about Parks and Recreation is wonderful, and she believes that Parks Make Life Better. She said parks bring communities together and she appreciates all the staff and has enjoyed working with them.

Commissioner Calhoun added her thanks and that everyone have enjoyed working with her as well.

- 5. Visalia Parks & Recreation Foundation Annual Report.** Commissioner Calhoun tabled this item until next month because Ms. Carol Hays, Executive Director of the Foundation, is ill this evening.
- 6. Update on the Eastside Regional Park & Groundwater Recharge Master Plan Project.** Commissioner Calhoun introduced Mr. Steve Canada, from the HLA Group in Sacramento.

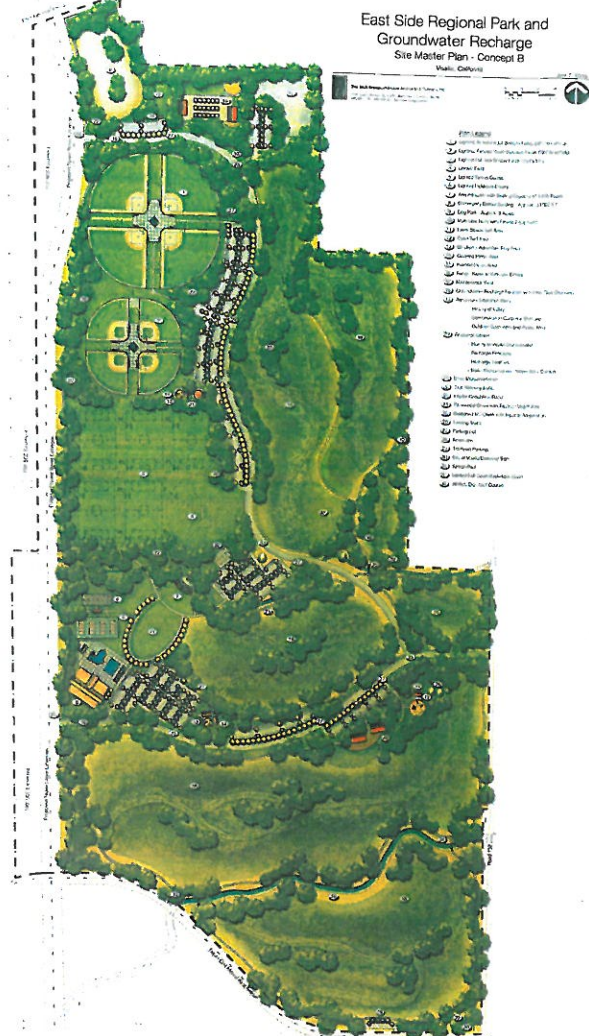
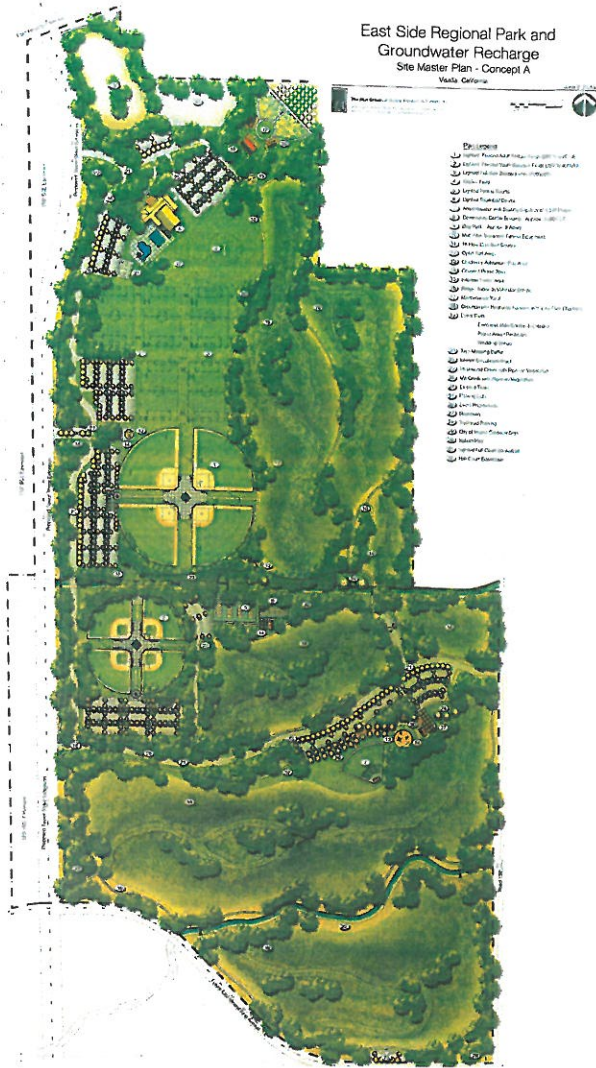
Mr. Canada introduced his team: Andrea Strahlo, Senior Landscape Designer, and Rick Darnley, Project Manager, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group.

Mr. Canada stated HLA has generated two conceptual plans for this project and the Commissioners have copies. He said there have been three public workshops and the fourth will be held this Thursday, June 18, in the Council Chambers. He said these concepts have not been released to the public, but have been presented to the Waterways & Trails Committee, the Environmental Committee, and the City Council; no approvals or actions have been taken on them. He stated workshops one and two were simply fact finding workshops to find out what park amenities the public were interested in, and a list was created. He said a series of meetings were held with Parks and Recreation staff members to quantify how many of each amenity was needed and how large they would be. He said the recharge areas were also discussed, with specific criteria. This area was pre-designed and consists of about 100 acres. The third workshop was a design charrette, where citizens placed the amenities on maps. He said the fourth workshop will consist of presenting the two conceptual drawings publicly to get final input.

Mr. Canada presented a map of the proposed site, pointing out the following points of interest.

- The Greenway Trail will provide excellent access into the park.
- Mill Creek, Oakes Ditch, and Packwood Creek are located within the boundaries of the park and will be key components of the park.





Mr. Canada noted points of interest in Concept A, moving from the southern portion of the map he explained amenities going in a northern direction.

- There are three points of entry. The north entry will connect to the Tower Street Extension, and the one to the south will connect to Road 152; this could be considered a secondary entry because it could be gated and only opened during major events, or for emergency vehicles. The road design allowed moving the amenities a little further away from the main roadways and the residential area.
- Recharge facilities - riparian plantings will be placed around the recharge facilities for a more natural effect. He noted that the basins will be designed shallowly, 4.5 to 5 feet deep, with gentle slopes. In addition, no manicured lawn will be placed in the basins because it impedes the percolation rate of water into the ground.
- There will be a gateway “welcome to Visalia” sign placed at the lower parking area, as proposed in the General Plan.
- There are over 5 miles of paved trails, defined as 10 feet wide with two foot shoulders on both sides. He noted that this does not include the walking/hiking areas that will be available in the recharge area during dry months. He said a cross-country space was requested at one of the public meetings and this could be instituted in the recharge basins.
- Planned is a large amphitheater with a capacity of 1,500 people. Included is a promenade where vendors and food trucks can gather with their equipment. This area will make events more fulfilling and people will stay longer.
- In both concepts disc golf was located in the northern area of the park because the two southern basins are most likely to have water flowing during the year.

- A lighted, fenced, Little League 4-plex is planned with a restroom and concession stand in the middle, surrounded by picnic areas. Parking is nearby. There are four lighted tennis courts and 6 lighted pickleball courts with a shaded area for socializing before or after games.
- Mill Creek, with riparian vegetation, is left in its natural alignment with a bridge to cross it.
- A lighted, fenced, adult softball 4-plex is also planned, and there is a children's play area included, along with picnic areas.
- There are 5 lighted soccer fields proposed.
- A 30,000 square foot Community Center with a gym and an aquatics facility is located next door. The facility includes a 25 yard swimming pool and a pool that has zero depth entry, with a slide. This facility will generate revenue for the City and will have parking nearby.
- A 3-acre dog park is planned and a maintenance yard.
- An event barn is planned that could be the site of weddings, family reunions, and parties that would generate revenue for the City to off-set the cost of maintenance. Also planned are a garden and an orchard that could be used for school field trips as educational tools.
- The linear path systems will include exercise equipment and stations to work out. Solar lighting has been discussed.
- A cricket field is planned, which can be used for multiple purposes.

Mr. Canada asked if there were any questions or comments.

Commissioner Blue asked what the water storage capability is in this park. Mr. Darnley stated there is 100 acres of recharge area and the City has a contract with TID (Tulare Irrigation District) to exchange water from the treatment plant to the recharge area. In turn, TID will get fresh water from the ponds. The City plans that every three years they will receive their allotment of water. He said the City has planned for years to use this land for recharging water.

Mr. Canada said that along the trails there will be educational kiosks explaining the water recharge process, and why it is necessary. There will be benches along the paths for public use.

Commissioner Mann asked what the difference was between storm water basins and water recharge ponds. Mr. Darnley said a storm water basin takes in water run-off from the streets and will include oil, trash, dirt, and debris, which require cleaning. Water recharge receives water from fresh water lakes and rivers.

Commissioner Shelton asked if the basins were going to be fenced. Mr. Darnley replied no.

Mr. Elizondo stated that at the 2015 Joint meeting Mr. Canada presented an early concept of this project and now he is presenting these conceptual designs. However, there are some controversial aspects of this project. When this project goes through the environmental process, the homeowners nearby are going to be very articulate about their concerns regarding the adult softball area.

Mr. Canada noted points of interest in Concept B, stating many of the amenities are also in Concept A. He said he will be speaking to the changes made to Concept A. He noted that the recharge facility and paths will remain the same.

- There are about 5.5 miles of trails.
- Along Tower Street there are two entrance points: one to the south, and one to the north. A road comes out to Road 152, which would be the third entry point, but it also comes into the park and T's into the interior of the park. This creates more observation and visibility from Tower Street. It brings more of the parking into the park to access trails and hiking paths. The drawback is that the baseball diamonds are closer to the residential area.
- The placement of the Resource Center is a good choice because the view would consist of the recharge basins and children can experience the educational aspect of the facility. Included is a play area and group picnic arbor.
- The 30,000 square foot Community Center/Aquatics facility is close by.
- Immediately to the north are the lighted tennis and pickleball courts. There is also a pavilion for social gathering.
- There is a large open space where car and art shows could take place.
- The amphitheater is in close proximity to parking, the Community Center, and the open space.
- In this concept Mill Creek will be restructured to meander up, down, and around the back side of the amphitheater, this would frame the amphitheater nicely. He said doing this would bring a more natural appearance to the creek. We are

proposing to bring a trail through this area and include picnic tables. However, this will take additional studies through the environmental process.

- Heading north is the cricket field and the lighted soccer fields including restrooms, a concession stand, and parking. Storage for the league's equipment is included. There are about 13 acres of open space in this concept.
- Near the youth baseball diamonds are a splash pad, a picnic area, a playground, and restrooms.
- There is a 2-acre maintenance yard with associated parking, the Agriculture Education Barn, and a dog park.

Mr. Canada said that berms, vegetation, and some trees will be added to both concepts along the Tower extension. He said requests were received from both the Task Force and the parks department to minimize maintenance as much as possible, and to use natural and drought tolerant plants in the landscaping.

Mr. Canada said this concept addresses the issue of the close proximity between the adult baseball facility and the youth baseball facility, which has been a recurring concern.

Questions:

Commissioner Shelton – will there be a wall to buffer the sound to the residential area?
A sound study will be compiled to meet that need.

Commissioner Calhoun asked if the Resource Center is only in Concept B.

Yes, the reasoning is that there could be a section in the Barn (Concept A) for some educational displays.

Mr. Canada said, in his experience, Workshop 4 will bring forth a Concept C, which will merge the best of Concepts A and B.

Mr. Elizondo said questions forthcoming are what the cost is going to be, when it will be built, and how long it will take to develop the parcels. He said with the drought situation, there will be grant money available through the State of California, and chances are the water recharge facility will be first. The park portion is probably many years away. The City's highest priority right now is completing the final phase of the Riverway Sports Park. He said grants and park development fees will drive both projects.

Mr. Canada informed the Commission that moving waterways includes a process of permit because Packwood and Mill Creeks are waterways of the United States. There will be agencies that will have to be contacted and applied to, including associated fees. He said there will be a positive outcome to the process.

Commissioner Mann asked if the Resource Center was a duplication of what already exists at Mooney Grove, a county park. She said they have an outstanding Ag museum, but there aren't any demonstrations. She said they have a great representation of the Native Americans and historical people of the valley.

That question has not come up. He said he would visit the Museum soon.

Commissioner Filiponi asked how excited the people were for cricket.

There was a large contingency at the first workshop and a smaller group at the second. They even sent rules and regulations for the game. If cricket isn't successful it is just an open space that can be used for other things.

Commissioner Blue noted some points. 1) tennis and pickleball players too close together?, 2) aquatics facility, any talk about a 50 meter pool?, and 3) cricket?

Last night at the City Council meeting Councilman Greg Collins mentioned a 50 meter pool. Cricket came through the public process.

Commissioner Kent had a concern about Concept B – the Community Center faces the amphitheater and if a concert is going on the noise would be loud. In addition, in Concept A, it would still create a noise issue.

That will be addressed.

Commissioner Thomas asked if there were enough picnic areas in comparison to the size of the park. Why, in Concept B, is there an open space in front of the amphitheater; and Concept A does not have it.

There are many picnic areas and some informal picnic areas. Informal areas are not available for reservations. There is ample room provided for this use. The thought was that larger events could take place in this area.

Commissioner Calhoun added that most events don't take place at the same time in any given area.

Mr. Canada said the next steps are as follows.

- Workshop 4 is next week.
- In July the Final Concept will be presented to City Council, the Waterways and Trails Committee, the Environmental Committee, and the Parks and Recreation Committee.
- In August a final presentation will be made to Council on the final draft of the Eastside Regional Park and Groundwater Recharge Facility Master Plan.

7. **Request by Members of “Visalia Pickleball” to Add Additional Lines to the Plaza Park Tennis Courts to Accommodate Pickleball Play (Continued from the May 19, 2015 Meeting).** Mr. Glick said at the May 19, 2015, meeting, after receiving the staff report and public testimony, the Commission voted to table the item for thirty (30) days and asked City staff to provide additional information in response to the comments at the meeting. He said he has received three emails regarding this topic since the May 19 meeting; two were positive and two were negative.

He said the key points from the May 19 meeting, with the information garnered by staff, are as follows.

- A. Lighting at the Pickleball Courts is not good for night play.
 - The existing lighting at the pickleball courts at Recreation Park were not designed for pickleball and are not adequate for night time play. The City has plans to propose funding for lights at the pickleball courts in the next two year budget cycle.
- B. Court Availability. There are not enough tennis courts in Visalia to meet current demand.
 - There are twenty one courts available for public use, ten courts at Mt. Whitney (5 lighted courts), eight at Plaza (all lighted) and three courts at COS.
 - The re-opening of the courts at Mt. Whitney will provide more courts for public use.
 - Although parking is difficult, COS has courts available for public use.
 - City staff conducted a two week audit of court use at Plaza Park (attached). This study shows that Saturday mornings are heavily used and were at capacity on the one date studied. Further, the audit shows that weekday evening use ranged between 41 and 53 percent of capacity. During the days observed, there were always at least two courts available for play and often more.
- C. Paint vs. Tape vs. Chalk
 - Painting is the preferred method; it is permanent and reduces the amount of time for setup and takedown. Tape is the second favored method, it does have the potential to leave residue on the courts. Chalk is ok for practices but not for organized play, it is messy, has the potential to smear, and is difficult to clean.
- D. Recreation Department Programming on Saturday mornings
 - Saturdays are a popular day for programs for children and adults. The Recreation Division offers many programs in City facilities, often on weekends, to meet the needs and demands of the community. The Recreation Division scheduled a Saturday morning Pickleball League at Plaza Park Tennis Courts as the facility was not reserved for any organized use and was large enough to accommodate the program. Enrollment for the pickleball league did not reach the numbers anticipated and, because enrollment was low, staff moved the league to the pickleball courts at Recreation Park.
- E. East Side Regional Park
 - This project is in the early planning stages and, although tennis and pickleball courts are proposed at this site, project completion will be several years away.
- F. Other options
 - The lighted courts at the Manuel F. Hernandez Community Center were originally designed for tennis however they were converted to basketball courts many years ago. These courts are heavily used, especially in the evening hours by neighbors who come to play basketball. The lighted basketball court at the Anthony Community Center is used by youth basketball teams for practices, to warm up for games on Saturdays and by other users in the evenings.
- G. Storage
 - City staff proposes that temporary nets and equipment, if needed, be provided by the user (Pickleball Visalia) as needed, the City does not have appropriate storage available at the tennis courts or staffing to provide access to City storage areas.
- H. Revenue / Permit Process
 - City facilities are subject to reservation on a first come, first serve basis. The City does have a permit fee for use of tennis and pickleball courts, \$4 per court, per hour. If a court has not been reserved, it is open for public use on a first come basis. The City may want to consider limiting the amount of time a group and/or individual can use the courts (2 hours?) to allow for more use of the facilities. The courts would not be designated as “tennis only” and “pickleball only” and would be available to 1) permit holders then, 2) the first to arrive.
- I. Phase in the addition of pickleball courts; start with one tennis court to see how it goes.
 - We did this with the USTA blended line project. We added blended lines for four courts to start and then added the additional four courts at a later date.

In addition, Parks and Recreation staff visited the Sunnyside Athletic Club in Fresno and made contact with the City of Arroyo Grande and the Pismo Beach Athletic Club regarding their tennis and pickleball usage.

Sunnyside Athletic Club – this is a private club open to members only.

On Thursday, June 4, staff visited the Sunnyside Athletic Club in Fresno. Sunnyside has six lighted tennis courts. The athletic club added light blue lines on three of the tennis courts, creating two pickleball courts per tennis court. Some of the pickleball courts have permanent painted blue lines, and some had blue painters tape on them.

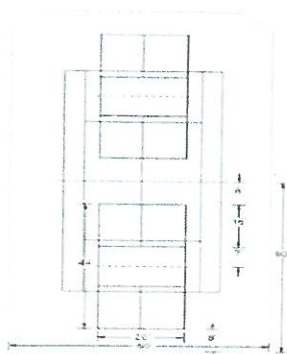
According to Sunnyside staff, the tennis players had no issues with pickleball lines being added to the tennis courts and players have had no issues with each other. The Club has hosted pickleball tournaments and CIF high school tennis tournaments at their complex with no issues related to having multiple lines on the courts.

Arroyo Grande

The City of Arroyo Grande has a five court complex and has added lines for four pickleball courts on one of the tennis courts. The lines were added with blue painters tape. According to staff at Arroyo Grande, tennis players originally contested the additional lines; however, they are ok with it now.

Pismo Beach Athletic Club – this is a private club.

At the Pismo Beach Athletic Club, they have one tennis court with four permanently striped pickleball courts on it. According to staff, the court is shared by tennis and pickleball players.



Mr. Glick stated the staff recommendation is the same as at the May 19 meeting:

Option B – four pickleball courts painted on two tennis courts at Plaza Park; courts seven and eight. This would require the purchase of four temporary nets.

Commissioner Mann clarified that there are three tennis courts at COS that are public. Mr. Glick said this is correct, but the college would like the public to use them after school hours. The courts are hard to get to and the public is required to pay for a parking permit. He said people tend to park outside the facility and walk in. Commissioner Mann asked if the Pismo Club reported any problems with their pickleball courts painted on tennis courts, and if they ever mentioned that the lines were confusing to tennis players. Mr. Glick said the club has a reservation policy and there have been no problems between the players. He also noted that nothing was ever said about the lines. Commissioner Mann said that in one of the most recent emails concerns were expressed about the foot traffic that court six at Plaza Park would experience during pickleball play.

Commissioner Calhoun stated the department received a letter from Mr. Doug Hoffer who requested it be read into the minutes. Commissioner Calhoun read it verbatim.

Visalia Park and Recreation Commission, June 16, 2015

1. Plaza Park Tennis Court Usage was taken at a time of the year that schools are finishing up their school year. Many parents, students, families are very busy at the end of the school year thus the tennis court usage would be exceptionally low. Last night, Monday June 15, all eight courts were in use from 6:45 pm to 8:00 pm.
2. The Basketball courts at Manuel E. Hernandez Community Center are not reserved for night play and the basketball players don't pay any fee to use that facility. The Recreation Department should put up "Court Reservation" signs so that they could generate money for that facility. With Pickleball lines on those courts the City could generate revenue when Pickleball Visalia reserves those courts. Why not put money over community usage at those basketball courts like the tennis courts at Plaza Park?
3. I would like to formally propose to put permanent USTA Regulation 10 & under 36' court lines on the pickleball courts at Recreation Park. This would enable us to run USTA Sanctioned Red ball tournaments and generate money for the City by hosting tournaments and court reservations.
4. Correction: The Visalia Unified School District did not close the tennis courts at Mt. Whitney High School. That was the High Schools decision to close the courts due to vandalism. It is very probable that the courts were closed by Mt. Whitney High School because of the vandalism by Pickleball players who put down tape lines, leave chalk lines behind and lower the nets.
5. Pickleball Visalia and the City Recreation Department need to sit down and work on finding funding to build more pickleball courts with lights. The City Recreation Department should NOT convert existing facilities like Plaza Park Tennis Courts into Pickleball courts, where pickleball players could displace tennis players on tennis courts.

I am pleading with the Visalia Park & Recreation Commission to vote against putting any pickleball lines on any tennis court at Plaza Park.

Thank you, Doug Hofer

35 year Visalia resident, Local Tennis Professional, Former City of Visalia Director of Tennis, Former College of the Sequoias Head Tennis Coach, Visalia Community Tennis Association Executive Director

Commissioner Calhoun opened the floor to public comment. She asked that everyone limit comments so that everyone has a chance to speak, and that comments include only new information.

Cheryl Waymack: She said she is the Ambassador for USAPA in this region. She made the following points. 1) Members of Pickleball Visalia (PV) have played at Sunnyside during tournaments and all courts are used. 2) Four pickleball courts on one tennis court is common, the closeness promotes camaraderie of the players, and a strong sense of community and friendship. 3) Players are seeking access to play during the day and evening; with adequate lighting. 4) If Senior Games comes to the Central Valley hundreds of Pickleball players will attend in RV's to camp and the last tournament hosted 700 people.

Kim Pickrell: He just competed in Senior Games in Santa Rosa, he has played tennis and pickleball tournaments as well. He made the following points. 1) He has not experienced any difficulties in the closeness of pickleball courts. 2) In regard to Plaza Park, he suggested courts one and two be utilized because it is difficult when tennis players are interrupted. 3) Parking is an issue. 4) He said the solid wall at courts seven and eight is for tennis players to practice on – what will happen with that. 5) He suggested access gates to the courts be considered.

Kim Ruby: Resident of Visalia and an avid pickleball player. She made the following points. 1) By providing four courts 32 players can play, 2) at Recreation Park many people have to wait, 4) she agreed that at Plaza Park it should be courts one and two, but would like to see them all striped for pickleball.

Dan Fox: Resident of Visalia and coach for tennis, ping pong, and pickleball. He made the following points. 1) there are more ways to access the courts than walking through the courts themselves, 2) a gate could be created near the children's playground, 3) he would not recommend using courts one and two, the City programming is on courts one through four, because they are close to parking, 5) pickleball and tennis will be significant at Senior Games.

Commissioner Calhoun closed the floor to public comment. She requested Commissioner comments.

Commissioner Thomas asked how many players at a time could be on pickleball courts, on two tennis courts. Mr. Glick said 32 people. Ms. Waymack stated Pickleball Visalia has grown by 10 people since the last meeting. She said she did foresee the growth. He asked if courts seven and eight are the best use of the facility. Mr. Glick said the blended lines on courts one through four are used in City programming, and seven and eight are not used as much. Commissioner Thomas asked if Mr. Hoffer was here because he had some questions for him. Mr. Glick stated he was not in attendance.

Commissioner Kent asked what color the lines are for pickleball. Ms. Waymack said there are no set colors. He replied with the evidence presented, the lines are not going to cause any confusion to the players. He suggested a discussion between Mr. Elizondo and Mr. Fultz regarding the possibilities of a gate.

Commissioner Filiponi confirmed with Mr. Glick that reservations were down at Plaza Park and Mr. Glick confirmed.

Commissioner Shelton asked if there had been a study done on the possibility of adding more pickleball courts in the future. Mr. Glick said it will be discussed during the next budget cycle.

Commissioner Mann asked if tournament play can take place on a pickleball court marked with tape. Ms. Waymack stated that per USAPA sanctions there must be eight courts at one venue, and they can be taped.

Commissioner Kent said since the May meeting he has completed some research. He said he would like to see more compassion on both sides of the debate, and good sportsmanship should prevail. He said he found several articles that reported pickleball as "the fastest growing sports in America." He said many cities are experiencing the same budget constraints as Visalia, but in one situation the pickleball players actually stepped up and did some fundraising for pickleball projects. Perhaps that could happen here in the future. He said he contacted the USAPA and spoke to Dennis, who said we could hold tournaments with temporary lines. He reported that he called the USTA regional representative, Steve, and he asked if competitive tennis play could be done on a court striped for pickleball and was told that it has not been voted on, but a sanctioned tournament would not be allowed. Commissioner Kent said this negates many players and tournaments from playing tennis at Plaza Park. Commissioner Kent said his Commission goal is to champion access for all and he would like to see some tournaments scheduled and create some buzz about it.

Commissioner Calhoun stated the commission has received input that demonstrates a great demand for both tennis and pickleball courts, and this is a great problem to have. This means there are many people who want to be active, healthy, and outside in the fresh air. Given that the current budget does not support building new pickleball courts immediately, she said she thinks the commission does need to take action on creating an opportunity for the pickleball players to continue to grow and play.

Dennis Culver: He asked the Commission how many tennis tournaments have occurred in Visalia. Mr. Fox said he has been coaching and teaching since 1998 there have been no USTA tennis tournaments during this time.

Mr. Glick clarified that USTA and CIF are two separate entities. The Sunnyside Club has had CIF tournaments, not USTA tournaments.

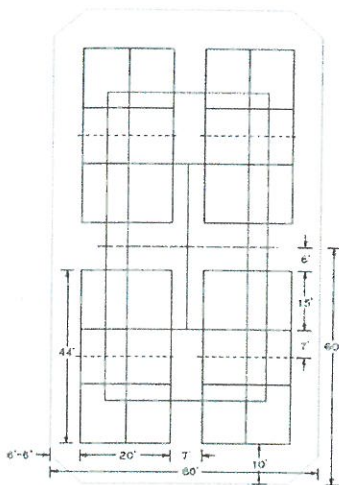
Commissioner Calhoun said there are four options to choose from and they are as follows.

Option A: Paint eight pickleball courts on two tennis courts. This would add two pickleball courts to each half court of tennis and require eight temporary nets. This is as requested by PV.

Option B: Paint four pickleball courts on two tennis courts. This would require the purchase of four temporary nets.

Option C: Paint one pickleball court on one tennis court. The existing tennis net would be used.

Option D: Paint no pickleball court lines on the tennis courts.



Commissioner Calhoun said the staff recommendation is Option B: four pickleball courts painted on two tennis courts. This would require the purchase of four temporary nets.

Commissioner Filiponi moved to recommend to approve Option A: four pickleball courts painted on one tennis court, as requested by Pickleball Visalia. This would add two pickleball courts to each half court of tennis and require eight temporary nets. He further moved to include the installation of a gate in the northwest corner of courts seven and eight. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion.

MOTION

Motion passed 5 -0

Mr. Glick said he would establish a meeting with PV to discuss funding and a timeframe for the striping.

8. **Proposed CAPRCBM Training to be held in Visalia.** Mr. Elizondo said the California Association of Park and Recreation Commissioners & Board Members would like to sponsor a regional workshop in Visalia. This has been done in past years and is a good opportunity to interact with other commissioners from other communities. The possible dates are August 29, September 12, and September 26. Ms. Miernik will send an e-mail requesting regarding dates and your availability.

9. **Update on City Council Reports & City Staff Announcements.**

• **Upcoming Recreation Programs & Special Events.** Ms. Greenwood reported the following.

- The Annual Review of Fees and Charges went to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) on June 3, and presented to Council yesterday afternoon. Last month the commission approved new fees for the Special Events Promenade and the pickleball courts. Approved changes in our fee structure included increases to the athletic field rentals, an increase to the cost of our senior meals, some increases in our park rental rates as we allow portable restrooms with the rental. The commission decided to not recommend the Non-Resident Fee Policy. The CAC did not discuss the Non-Resident Policy so a Memorandum was submitted with our Fees and Charges Policy stating the commission's position on it and the Council was given the option in the staff report to direct staff to continue research on the topic. Council did not discuss it, nor did they ask the department to pursue it at this time. The Fees and Charges will be presented to Council again on July 6 and at that time they will discuss it and hopefully, approve them.
- This is the second week of summer programming. Swim teams are doing well, with more swimmers this year than previously.
- The Summer Food Program is going on again this year with free meals at the Anthony, Whitendale, and Manuel Hernandez Community Centers, Monday through Friday.
- Day camps are taking place at the Whitendale Community Center and averaging 80+ per day.
- Last week the Dive in Movies began at Mount Whitney Pool on Saturday nights and this week Movies in the Park start at Riverway Sports Park on Friday nights.

- Senior Games - staff has been working on creating the programming for the games. We have applied for membership to the California Senior Games Association, and prepared a special Press Release. We have announced we will be hosting the games this year and the dates are October 21 through 25, Wednesday through Sunday. Eight events have been proposed – archery, golf, tennis, pickleball, bowling, table tennis, horseshoes, and a 5 or 10k run. Ultimately, there are 19 games in the National Senior Games Program, and they want the department to offer at least half the games by the third year. If another game is offered next year we will accomplish that goal. We are in the early stages of planning, and four months out. The first planning meeting is tomorrow afternoon, 3 pm at the Senior Center. Many volunteers are necessary to pull this event together.
- The Mother’s Day luncheon will be held at the Senior Center on Friday. There will be a Texas Hold Em tournament following the lunch hour.
- Arianna Ornelius, a summer Intern from Sacramento State, is with us at this time. She is studying for her Recreation degree and her project is Senior Games.

Commissioner Blue asked if Laurissa Roggenkamp could email him the swim schedule practice dates.

- **Upcoming Parks & Urban Forestry Projects, Programs & Special Events.**

Mr. Fultz said that last night City Council approved an emergency revision to the Water Conservation Ordinance, which states that from March through November citizens can only water two days per week. This is effective immediately. They also approved changing the definition of the stages. We are currently in a Stage 4 Drought and in the future it will be a Stage 2 Drought.

Mr. Fultz stated the department is allowed to deviate from this with parks that are over three acres. He said the two days per week is in-line with the City Manager’s request to cut water use.

- The Riverway Sports Park will be irrigated for 21 days, three times a day, and reseeded as necessary, for renovation.
 - Oval Park will be receiving new playground equipment provided by a grant from First 5. It will replace the old one and it will have a shade structure with fencing. The children only sign will be going up at the playground.
 - We have capped off turf irrigation to Mill Creek Parkway and Lovers Lane and are considering ways to water just the trees in those locations. Work will continue at two Fire locations, City Hall East, the Convention Center, and the Senior Center.
 - Mill Creek Park is experiencing well difficulties. Last night Council approved \$20,000 to install new pipes and meters at the park. Currently Streets is watering the park with trucks.
 - The department is still working with Engineering in regard to the Plaza Park Softball lighting project. An electrical engineer is inspecting the poles and the situation.
- **Director’s Report on Administrative Items.** Mr. Elizondo said that with Commissioner Mann terming out Commissioners Thomas and Shelton will need to think about filling her position. This will be on our agenda next month.

10. Commissioner’s Requests & Comments:

Commissioner Calhoun thanked Commissioner Filiponi for attending last night’s City Council meeting and accepting the Proclamation citing July as Parks and Recreation month.

- **Eastside Regional Park Task Force:** Commissioner Calhoun said she is confident that Mr. Canada and Mr. Darnley have covered the details of the park very well and the next meeting is scheduled for July 18, in the Council Chambers at 6:30 pm.
- **Community/Aquatic Center Ad Hoc Committee.** Commissioner Blue said the committee has not met.
- **Senior Citizens Advisory Committee.** Commissioner Mann said the committee has been working on a compromise between Senior Pride Bingo and the Gadabouts. She said it was the most challenging meeting she has attended.
- **Parks & Recreation Foundation.** Commissioner Kent said he had no report because Ms. Hays was going to do a presentation, but due to illness she could not attend the meeting.
- **Waterways & Trails Committee Report.** Commissioner Filiponi said the last meeting was based on the Eastside Regional Park and Groundwater Recharge facility.

Mr. Elizondo stated the Committee members had some interesting comments. Mr. Don Stone, a former long-time employee of the City, raised the question of how Packwood Creek would be crossed and connected in the plan.

- **North Visalia Neighborhood Advisory Committee.** Commissioner Thomas said he was out of town and did not attend the last meeting. However, the playground has been discussed at every meeting he has attended.

- **Public Arts Task Force Report.** Commissioner Mann said this task force has not begun its work yet.
11. **Adjourn to the Regular Meeting, May 19, 2015, at the Council Chambers located at 707 W. Acequia Street, Visalia, CA.** Commissioner Mann moved to adjourn and Commissioner Blue seconded the motion.

MOTION

Motion passed 5-0

Brenda Miernik,
Senior Administrative Assistant