



City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Baseline Tennis Club Proposal

Recommendation: That Council approves City staff to execute a Facility Use Agreement with Baseline Tennis Club for use of City tennis courts, subject to legal review.

Prepared by: Zac Quentmeyer, Community Services Analyst II

Council Meeting Date: 09/27/2022

Date Prepared: 09/23/2022

Agenda: Administrative

Background Information: In August of 2022, City staff received a request from a group of individuals inquiring about establishing a tennis club and requesting reserved use of City tennis courts. The group was seeking reserved club court time to allow members to utilize a court reservation app and facilitate group play. Upon receiving the request, City staff provided direction to establish an official club for the group's request to be considered formally by the city. The group proceeded to identify a club name, elect a board, and adopt club bylaws. Staff then posted flyers at all city tennis court gates to solicit comments from court users on the new club's proposal. Over the next three weeks, staff fielded many comments and inquiries from supporters and non-supporters of the proposal via email, phone, and in person.

Baseline Tennis Club supporters promote the community benefit potential from a club structure and reserved court time. Projected benefits include options for members to better coordinate scheduled play, new opportunities to connect with similarly skilled players, and opportunities for those new to the area or new to the sport to connect with players. The club also proposes a play format where participants rotate on and off the courts more frequently than traditional play, creating increased user activity compared to standard play.

Users who object to the City approving reserved court times for club play voiced concern about restricting the courts' open public use. Long-time court users expressed that there is no need to try and fix a system that is not broken. Users stated that historically players found other players to play with organically and get a feel for when courts are typically available. Another common concern is that the tennis club is attempting to model its club structure on the Grass Valley Pickleball Club and tennis and pickleball are not comparable. Pickleball games are short, tennis games tend to be much longer, and rotating multiple players on and off the courts is challenging.

After analyzing Baseline Tennis Club's proposal and comments received from the public,

staff identified 3 options for consideration.

1. Deny Baseline Tennis Club's Request for a Facility Use Agreement.
2. Approve Baselines Tennis Club's request for a Facility Use Agreement and approve the use of the courts during peak use hours (typically early morning and evenings). Two courts for two hours during one weekday and two courts for two hours during one weekend day each week.
3. Approve Baselines Tennis Club's request for a Facility Use Agreement and approve the use of the courts during non-peak use hours (typically late morning and early afternoon). Two courts for two hours during one weekday and two courts for two hours during one weekend day each week.

Staff recommends council approve option 3, allowing staff to execute a Facility Use Agreement with Baseline Tennis Club for use of tennis courts at Memorial and Dee Mautino Park during non-peak hours. Staff also suggest establishing a monitoring program to ensure the club is actively recruiting new members and expanding club programming. Staff also suggest the following fee structure:

\$3 per court per hour (30% reduction to account for non-playable conditions including rain, snow, and smoke)

4 hours per week X 2 courts = 8 hours
8 hours X 52 weeks per year = 416 hours
416 hours X \$3 per hour = \$1,248
\$1,248 reduced by 30% = \$873.60
Proposed Yearly fees = \$873.60

Council Goals/Objectives: Executing a Facility Use Application with Baseline Tennis Club fulfills Recreation and Park's objectives outlined in the adopted Grass Valley Strategic Plan.

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Funds Available: N/A

Account #: N/A

Reviewed by: City Manager

Attachments: Baseline Tennis Proposal, Baseline Tennis Bylaws, comments received by staff.