



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING • MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers, 33 East Broadway Avenue, Meridian, Idaho
Wednesday, February 10, 2021 • 5:30 p.m.

The Meridian Parks & Recreation Commission is a volunteer citizens' group that is created and empowered to advise the City on issues relating to park facilities and recreation programs of the City. Their mission is to gather input from staff and other qualified personnel on issues relating to the creation and design of public parks and open spaces; to listen to public input; and to provide advice and recommendations on parks and recreation related matters to the Mayor and City Council.

Roll-Call Attendance

Commission President Jo Greer called the meeting to order at approximately 5:35 p.m. MPR Administrative Assistant II Rachel Myers took roll-call attendance as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <u>X</u> Jo Greer, President | <u>X</u> Albert Kang |
| <u>X</u> Keith Bevan, Vice President | <u>X</u> John Nesmith |
| <u>X</u> Dom Gelsomino | <u>X</u> Autumn Short |
| <u>X</u> Jennifer Bobo | <u>X</u> Jessica West |
| <u>X</u> Camden Hyde | <u>X</u> Jessica Perrault, City Council Ex-Officio |

Others present were: MPR Department staff—Parks & Recreation Director Steve Siddoway, Parks Superintendent Mike Barton, Recreation Manager Garrett White, Marketing Coordinator Shelly Houston, Pathways Project Manager Kim Warren, Recreation Coordinator – Sports Maggie Combs, Recreation Coordinator 1 (Sports) Skyler Cook, and Arts & Culture Coordinator Audrey Belnap; Deputy City Attorney Emily Kane; National Golf Foundation Director of Consulting Services Ed Getherall; and Golf Course Architect President Forrest Richardson.

Adoption of the Agenda

Commission President Jo Greer entertained a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Dom Gelsomino moved to adopt the agenda. Commission Vice President Keith Bevan seconded. All were in favor of the motion.

Approval of the Minutes

1. January 13, 2021 Regular Meeting – Jo Greer

Commission President Jo Greer entertained a motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Commissioner Dom Gelsomino moved to approve the minutes. Commission Vice President Keith Bevan seconded. All were in favor of the motion.

Announcements

Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2021

Page 1 of 7

Persons desiring accommodation for disabilities related to documents and/or hearings:
Please contact the City Clerk's Office at 888-4433 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

2. Upcoming Events – Shelly Houston

MPR Marketing Coordinator Shelly Houston reported on the following:

- Meridian Has Heart – This is a campaign which encourages the public the weekend of February 13, 2021—in light of Valentine’s Day—to show love and appreciation to others with acts of kindness. Who do you appreciate? The recipients could then take a picture and post it to social media #MERIDIANHASHEART.
- Blind Date With A Book – This is linked to the Little Free Library on Saturday, February 13, 2021. Staff wrapped several novels and disguised their cover/title with brown paper and decorations. A tag is added to each one with hints about what the book is about. People can come to City Hall Plaza between 1-3 p.m. and can choose a book to take home for free. People can also donate their used books at this time.

Old Business

3. Lakeview Golf Course Master Plan Progress Update – Ed Getherall & Forrest Richardson

National Golf Foundation Director of Consulting Services Ed Getherall provided a brief overview of where they’ve been, where they are, and some of the next steps regarding the Lakeview Golf Course Master Plan. They are still early in the process. This is a months-long study, and they are about 1-2 months in.

Their initial focus has been on community and stakeholder engagement. The first piece of this was a golf course survey that was initiated in December 2020 by KemperSports. They plan to do another golfer survey some time around March or April 2021. They are having one-on-one virtual meetings and/or one-on-one calls with various City officials, MPR Commissioners, the Lakeview Golf Course Focus Group members, City staff, the Men’s & Women’s Associations, HOA representatives, and others. They will follow up with an online survey specifically geared toward the golfers.

The second key part they have been focusing on is the physical assessment of Lakeview Golf Course. Golf Course Architect President Forrest Richardson visited the golf course, assessed current conditions, and is looking at some of the key issues. In addition, Forrest visited five other courses in the Treasure Valley for comparison. They want to prioritize a Capital Improvement Plan and will get it to Steve Siddoway in the next few weeks. The report will note the negative as well as the strong points about the golf course.

They’ve had ongoing meetings with MPR, Lakeview, and KemperSports staff. The next steps are to finish the stakeholder engagement over the next few weeks to get the survey of the HOA residents into the field and to produce a prioritized Capital Improvement Plan by March 1, 2021. They will then turn their attention to the operation side and will provide high-level strategic recommendations; i.e., enterprise vs. general fund, operating structure, etc., as well as other best practice operational recommendations; i.e., fees, marketing, direct sales, staffing levels, food and beverage, programming, etc.

Commission Feedback:

- **Jessica West** – Regarding the issues that Forrest Richardson noted while assessing the golf course, was it a surprise to MPR staff? *No. MPR staff want to have a prioritized list because budgets are tight. They want to spend money wisely, and they want this to be viable for many years.*

She would like to consider holding an onsite workshop to visit the golf course together as a Commission.

- **Jo Greer** – She would like to see a map of the course added to Lakeview Golf Club’s website.

4. Community Center Update – Steve Siddoway

MPR Director Steve Siddoway reported the community center partnership that MPR staff has been working on over the past year will not be moving forward as originally planned. The agreement that existed between the Meridian Development Corporation (MDC), the City, and Galena expired at the end of January 2021. Even though the agreement expired, staff members still remain committed, as well as the Planning Department and MDC, to bring forward a new community center and transform that civic block into an iconic section of downtown. Efforts are underway to prepare a Request for Proposals to get the ball rolling again, which is anticipated to go out late spring/early summer and be open for a few months to solicit new proposals for the project. MPR staff look forward to continuing this process and project and will keep the MPR Commission apprised as it does move forward. As part of that moving forward, Steve would like to come back to the Commission for the March 10th meeting and bring the current vision for the community center; he would like to revisit this with the MPR Commission and ask if this is still the right vision for the new community center, or is there anything the Commissioners would like to discuss— change/update.

New Business

5. Meridian Parks & Recreation Department Adult Sports Update – Maggie Combs & Skyler Cook

MPR Recreation Coordinator – Sports Maggie Combs and Recreation Coordinator 1 (Sports) Skyler Cook provided a PowerPoint presentation about the MPR Department’s adult sports. Copies of the slides are attached to these meeting minutes.

Commission Feedback:

- **Camden Hyde** – Being a teenager, were there age restrictions on Cornhole and Spikeball Tournaments? *There was a 16 and older rule in place for Cornhole and Spikeball Tournaments. The MPR Department focuses primarily on adult sports. They are looking at adding a Girls Fastpitch Tournament. Disc Golf with Halloween was the first time youth was involved with no age restrictions. They hope to bring on additional youth sports opportunities in the future.*
- **Jo Greer** – Will the City offer any type of golf tournament or league out at Lakeview? *The Meridian Chamber of Commerce has historically had their annual golf tournament there but moved last year. With Public Works Week, they had a golf tournament at Lakeview as well. They want to get the Chamber back and continue to hold the Public Works Week annual tournament. MPR staff is open to ideas.*

She would like to see the MPR Department offer some adult golf lessons to the community to get move involved at Lakeview and for more exposure.

- **Garrett White** – He provided kudos to both Maggie and Skyler for their work over this past year.

6. Arts & Culture Update – Audrey Belnap

MPR Arts & Culture Coordinator Audrey Belnap provided a PowerPoint presentation about the Meridian Arts Commission and the Meridian Historic Preservation Commission. Copies of her slides are attached to these meeting minutes.

7. **Kleiner Park Pickleball Concept Discussion [Action Item] – Mike Barton**

MPR Parks Superintendent Mike Barton reported the MPR Department has an opportunity for a partnership that would bring pickleball to Kleiner Park. He provided a PowerPoint presentation about the background of pickleball, the potential partnership, and concept. Copies of his slides are attached to these meeting minutes.

Commission Feedback:

- **John Nesmith** – Overall, this is a good idea/project. He would like to ensure that the courts are emphasized for public use and that there is no entitlement by the citizens from the development outside of a priority use agreement. Add proper signage to explain the partnership and priority use and acknowledge the donation.
- **Jessica West** – She believes this is a great opportunity to partner with an organization the City has partnered with in the past in trying to add more amenities for the community. She would like to see pickleball lessons be extended to additional age groups.
- **Jennifer Bobo** – She asked if the courts would be in the path of the disc golf course. Move the courts away from the sledding hill. *The #8 tee and basket would be relocated. The courts would be shifted away from the toe of the slope.* She would like staff to consider the correct positioning of the courts with the direction of the sun.
- **Jo Greer** – She would like staff to explore a dual-use scenario of tennis and pickleball. She would like to see a wide variety of new amenities, including pickleball, that would serve all age ranges, not just for a certain demographic.

Staff will take forward the Commission's feedback to City Council.

Workshop ~ NONE

Staff Reports

8. MPR Staff

Parks & Recreation Director Steve Siddoway reported on the following:

- Jessica Perrault – She is now the MPR Commission's City Council Liaison for 2021. He introduced everyone to Councilmember Perrault. She took a moment to share a little bit about herself.
- Adult Sports – He expressed his pride in the numbers related to the sports program the Commission heard earlier in the evening. There were 124 Volleyball teams in winter, 73 in spring, and 98 in the fall; 106 Softball teams; 425 total teams; and almost 4,000 participants, in spite of such a challenging year.
- Arts & Culture - The work Audrey Belnap with the Arts Commission and the Historic Preservation Commission has been wonderful.
- Jennifer Bobo – He gave a shout-out to Commissioner Bobo for participating in the Meridian Challenge. Thank you!
- Homecourt – The MPR Department is looking forward to opening this facility soon. Staff anticipate things are likely to open up after the February 19, 2021 Central District Health meeting. So there are tentative plans in place to open on February 20th.

- Community Center – The Commission received an update earlier in the evening. He looks forward to providing an update next month.
- Lakeview Golf Course – The Commission received an update earlier in the evening. He gave a shout-out to Mike Barton for doing 99% of the heavy lifting on the MPR Department's end.
- FY22 Budget – It is budget season, and he gave a shout-out to Rachel Myers. MPR staff members are starting their budget development this week. There is lots of work yet to come.
- Annual All-Employee Meeting – He has been heavily involved in the planning of this year's City-wide All-Employee Meeting that is coming up on February 24, 2021. This will be a large-scale virtual event with over 500 people in attendance.
- Strategic Plan – This is another big-ticket item. Council approved a framework with focus areas for the City to move forward for the next five years. Staff is gearing up for a very busy March where they will be developing goals and actions under the focus areas and figure out how they implement these things over the next five years.

Pathways Manager Kim Warren reported on the following:

- Various Pathway Projects – She has been working with the three teams of consultants to do 13 projects. A lot of these projects came out of the pathways tour held last year where they noticed the disconnects and gaps in the system. Some were low-hanging fruit. She has conceptual alignments for these projects. There has been coordination with the irrigation district. They are starting to communicate with property owners.
- Five Mile Pathway – MPR staff have been in discussion about striping this pathway. In general, they have been focused on how to create an identity in the system with the Five Mile as the priority pathway.
- Pathway Branding - She has been working with Stephanie Inman on pathway branding to mark the Five Mile Pathway. Stephanie is an artist and graphic designer who has completed various signage for Meridian's park system. They are also discussing how to integrate this with public art. The goal is to create more visibility for all the pathways.
- Ten Mile Trailhub – This project is still on hold for the winter.
- South Slough Pathway – She gave Mike Barton a shout-out on this project. The northern portion was completed. Crews will use some excavated dirt from the Fairview Avenue project and use it to fill this stretch of pathway.
- Fairview Avenue Connection – This construction project is to start up in the next couple of weeks, weather permitting.
- Pedestrian Bridge – They are very close to having a pedestrian bridge at Ten Mile Creek to connect to the Whitestone neighborhood with Twelve Oaks. This will be a safe route to school.

Recreation Manager Garrett White reported on the following:

- Concessions – He has been working on an RFP for concessions at Kleiner and Fuller Parks.
- Covid-19 – He has been working a lot with Central District Health protocols for programs the recreation staff are doing and to point them in the right direction regarding CDH guidance.
- MYB Baseball – He is still in touch with Meridian Youth Baseball to finish up their 2020 agreement amendment based on Covid-19, as well as the 2021 Fuller Park agreement.

- FY22 Budget – He has been involved with the budget process for fiscal year 2022.
- External Events – He has been working with external event organizers who want to utilize the parks and determine what kind of protocols may be in place at the time of their event. MPR staff members are keeping tabs on what CDH and the Governor are doing.
- Special Events – Renee White has been working on logistics with the committee planning for the City-wide Employee Meeting. She has been planning for Unplug & Be Outside Week that will happen the first part of May. She is also planning logistics for Movie Night.
- Classes & Camps – Jenna Fletcher has been planning for summer and is working with her current programs with limited gathering sizes and social distancing. There have been almost 4,000 participants in classes and programs with limited numbers. Some classes are still going while following all CDH guidelines and protocols. Jenna is starting to piece together the 2021 Summer Activity Guide that will be released in April, which will be done in-house with Shelly Houston.
- Homecourt – While the facility was closed this winter, staff have been completing various Parks Division projects, such as replacing and painting picnic table boards and painting park restroom interiors. Jake Garro is still working on hiring some additional staff.
- Shelter Reservations – Picnic shelter reservations opened February 1, 2021 at 8 a.m. The season runs from April 10th through October 17th. Customers may go online and reserve a shelter at this time with the caveat that they have to click and agree to that their shelter may be cancelled, pending where the City is, what stage we are in, gathering size limitations, etc. MPR staff members are already receiving phone calls and emails about this and associated external events.

Adjourn

Commission President Jo Greer entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commission Vice President Keith Bevan moved to adjourn. Commissioner John Nesmith seconded. The vote was unanimous and in favor of the motion.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:50 p.m.

(AUDIO & VIDEO ON FILE OF THESE PROCEEDINGS)

APPROVED:

JO GREER, PRESIDENT

_____/_____/_____
DATE

KEITH BEVAN, VICE PRESIDENT

/rem

Attachments:

- 1) PowerPoint Presentation: Meridian Parks and Recreation Adult Sports (7 pages)
- 2) PowerPoint Presentation: Meridian Arts Commission & Meridian Historic Preservation Commission (6 pages)
- 3) PowerPoint Presentation: Kleiner Park Pickleball Discussion (4 pages)

Meridian Parks and Recreation – Adult Sports

February 2021



2020 Year in Review

- Volleyball Leagues
 - Winter – 124 teams (increased by 6 teams) *ended early due to COVID*
 - Spring – 73 teams (decreased by 11 teams due to COVID)
 - Fall – 98 teams (decreased by 14 teams due to COVID) *ended early due to COVID*



- Holiday Classic Tournament
 - Volleyball Tournament (Saturday)
 - 32 teams (increased by 7 teams)



- Cornhole Tournament (Sunday)
 - Added a Cornhole Tournament
 - 22 people attended

2020 Year in Review

- Softball Leagues
 - Spring/Summer – 106 teams (increased by 6 teams)
 - Fall – canceled due to the Spring/Summer running into Fall Season due to COVID.
- Summer Fun Fast Pitch Tournament
 - Canceled due to COVID restrictions
 - Created a Fast Pitch League during the week days
 - 10 teams

2020 Year in Review

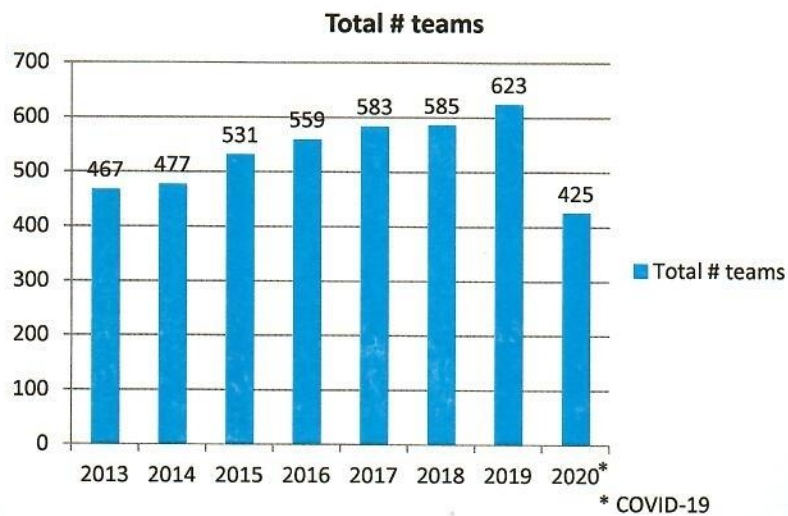
- Flag Football Leagues
 - Fall – 14 teams (decreased 4 teams due to COVID and shared field space with Softball League)
- Basketball League
 - Canceled due to COVID
- 2020 Meridian Challenge *NEW*
 - 7 people participated

2020 Year in Review

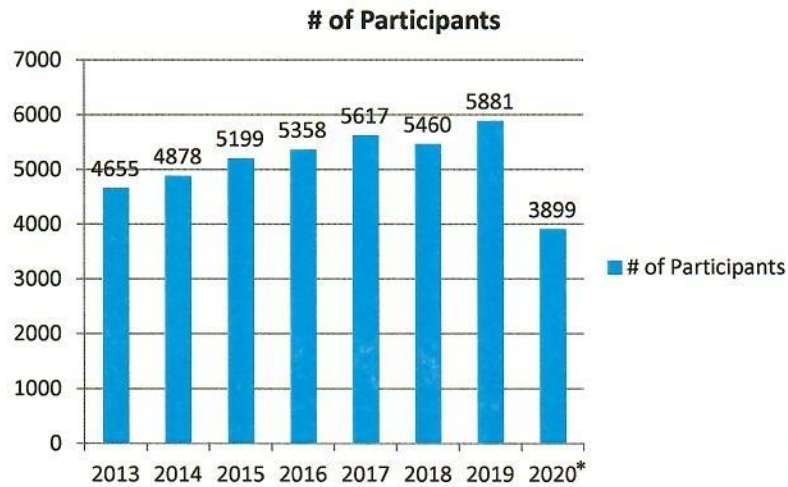
- Cornhole Leagues - NEW
 - Summer – 46 players
 - Fall – 49 players
- Spikeball - NEW
 - League
 - 10 players
 - Tournament
 - 6 players
- Disc Golf - NEW
 - Tournament – 22 players
 - Halloween Tournament
 - Youth Players – 7 players
 - Adult Players – 29 players



Program Statistics



Program Statistics



* COVID-19

Sponsorship Overview



- Volleyball and Cornhole Tournament Donations
 - Sparklight - \$2,500
 - 10 Mile Wal-Mart: Pioneer Women Bundle package worth \$100
 - 10 Mile Wal-Mart: Movie Basket Bundle worth \$50
 - Wahooz – 2 Classic Unlimited Fun Passes
 - FastLane – 2 Free Race coupons and 6 Buy 1 get 1 Free Coupons
 - Buffalo Wild Wings – 3 packets of 3 sauce packets with 4 \$10 off coupons
 - Escape from Mystery Manor (4 tickets) two packages worth over \$200
 - Chocolate Basket
 - EpiGenius Kids Chocolate Shake Mix and blender bottle
 - Lifestyle Nutrition Café – 2 \$10 gift certificates
 - Texas Roadhouse – Gift certificates for 1st place teams

Sponsorship Overview

- Spikeball and Disc Golf Tournament Donations
 - Texas Roadhouse
- Cornhole League
 - Buffalo Wild Wings



2020 Additions/ Changes

- Due to COVID we were unable to host a 4v4 Summer Volleyball league at Homecourt.
- Softball league format changed to Coed and Men's leagues playing on specific nights.
- Skyler Cook was hired as the New Recreational Coordinator 1 (Sports)
 - He created Cornhole, Spikeball, Disc Golf tournaments and leagues while working within the guidelines of COVID.
 - He also ran the Flag Football League this year.
 - He was geared up to run the Basketball League that was canceled due to COVID.

Challenges

- 2020 COVID
 - We worked with in the guidelines as they changed during the year to make it possible to host leagues and events.
 - We had to be creative and adapt to keep people active.
- 2021 Challenges?
 - Unknown of COVID gathering sizes and timeline to return to 'normal'.
 - Gym Space
 - If we keep growing we will be required us to play on Friday's
 - Uses of Schools during COVID
 - Field Space with lights
 - If we keep growing we will have to play on Friday's, which will limit the amount of weather make-ups.
 - Not just for leagues but outside requests

Fun Facts of Adult Sports

- The Holiday Classic raised approximately \$3,813. This helped purchase around 620 gifts for 52 children from the Meridian Head Start Program.
 - Funds were raised from team fees, donations, raffles, and officials working for a reduced rate
 - Seven other kids from the Meridian Head Start Program were purchased for by others from the tournament.
 - Sparklight sponsored the tournament with an additional \$2,500 to ensure that the kids would be able to receive gifts this year, as we were unsure leading up to the tournament if COVID might cancel the event they stepped up to make sure that either way the kids would get Christmas.

Fun Facts of Adult Sports

- During the Softball season, 20,129 total runs were scored this year in the 80 days of softball or 251 runs per night on average.
 - In the month of July there were 5,420 total runs scored on the 4 fields; averaging about 1,355 times someone ran around a field in a month.
- The Winter, Spring, and Fall Volleyball Leagues combined scored 49,730 points, averaging 777 points scored per night on average over the 64 night played this season.
 - Winter League and Fall Leagues we cut short due to COVID, losing about 18 nights of play of their tournament games.

Questions?

MERIDIAN ARTS COMMISSION

Annual Report, 2020

Commissioners

Leslie Mauldin, Chair

Bonnie Zahn Griffith, Vice Chair

Jessica Peters

Maria Tzompa

Tom Vannucci

Jenifer Cavaness-Williams

Lizzie Taylor

Natalie Schofield

Raeya Wardle, youth

Joe Borton, ex officio



New: Public Art Plan



- A partnership with Via Partnerships, Public Art Consultant
 - A third party evaluation of our public art plan
- Established priorities and a vision for the future of public art in Meridian
- Assessed the strengths and weaknesses of the program
- What's next: workshop Via Partnership's final report into a public art plan



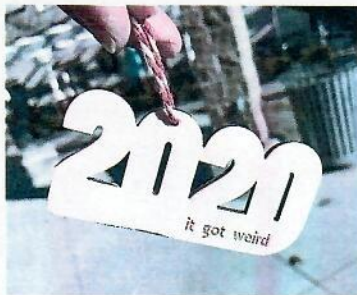
New: Meridian Mural Series

- Three new murals for Meridian- our first City-funded murals
- Excellent response from local property owners
- Excellent response from artists, local and national
- What's next: facilitate the design process with artists and property owners



New: Ornament Drop

- A holiday spin off of the popular Art Drop
- Appealing to a wide audience
- Brings people downtown
- What's next: do it again!



Public Art Installations

MAPS funding



All In- Another Day at the Office
Daniel Borup
Fire Station #6

Park Identity Projects



Champion's Flame
Trademark Design
Champion Park



Illuminations
Ken McCall
Renaissance Park

Traffic Box Series

- 10 new wraps installed
- 5 wraps selected by local artists, funded by MAPS
- 5 wraps selected from the West Ada School District Student Art Show, funded by MDC



The Magic of Reading
Raeya Wardle



In the mind of a teenage woman
Aeryn Waterman



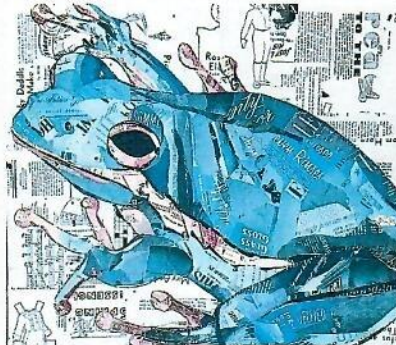
Comets Inbound
Casey Gurr

Initial Point Gallery

- 8 Gallery Exhibits
- Showcased the work of 98 artists
- Doubled the average number of applicants for the 2021 gallery calendar



Fred Choate



Elizabeth Hilton



Ted Smith

Art Week

- Transitioned to a series of art classes
 - 13 classes with 11 professionals
- Most popular activities: Art Drop & Chalk Art Competition



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Annual Report, 2020

Commissioners

Blaine Johnston, President

Josh Everts, Vice President

Jacy Nary

Donna Lusignan

Jody Ault

[Destinie Hart](#)

Brian Fitzgerald, youth

Jessica Perrault, ex officio



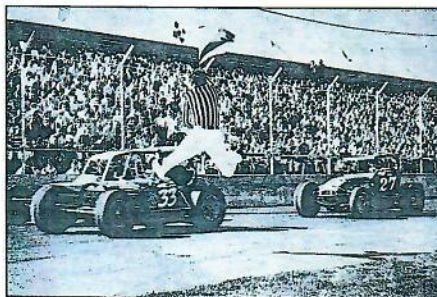
Historic Virtual Tours

- Partnered with Hull Film to create virtual tours of Meridian History
- Newly Completed Sites: Meridian City Hall/Creamery, Meridian Speedway
- <https://hullfilm.com/projects/meridian/new14/>

National Registry



- Awarded \$2,000 grant by the State Historic Preservation Office for the Meridian Speedway Reconnaissance Survey
- Partnered with local business, TAG Historical Research to complete the Intensive Survey
- What's next: receive feedback from SHPO on eligibility



Meridian Speedway - 1968
Bob Woodward, Flagman

May: Preservation Month

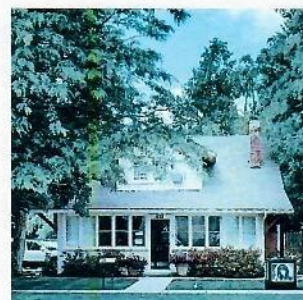
- Went virtual to highlight local historical properties
- Strong community of history supporters
- What's next: build and educate an online community on Meridian History



Meridian Exchange Bank



Meridian High School



Clara Hill House

Kleiner Park Pickleball Discussion

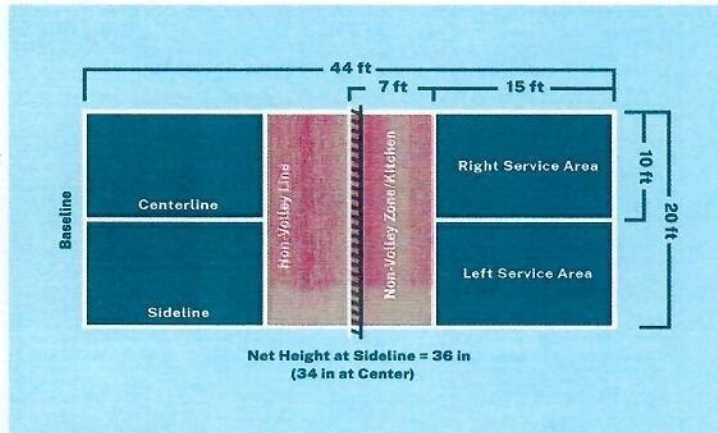
Mike Barton, City of Meridian
Parks Superintendent



<https://youtu.be/E4yZT7HwdIM>



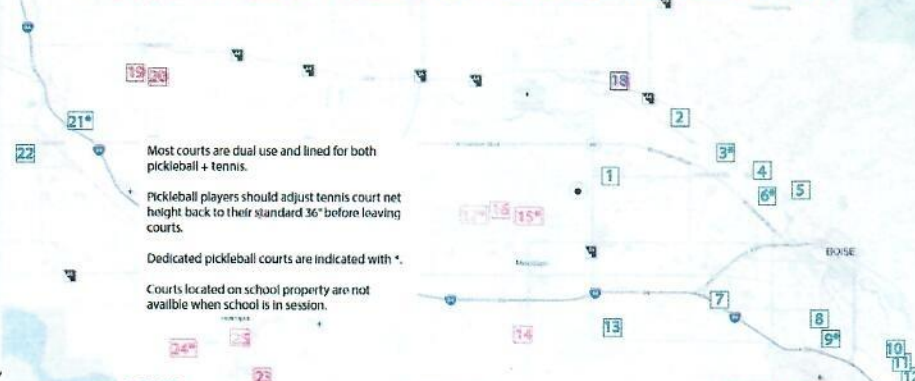
Typical Pickleball Court Layout



North



TREASURE VALLEY PICKLEBALL – OUTDOOR PLACES TO PLAY



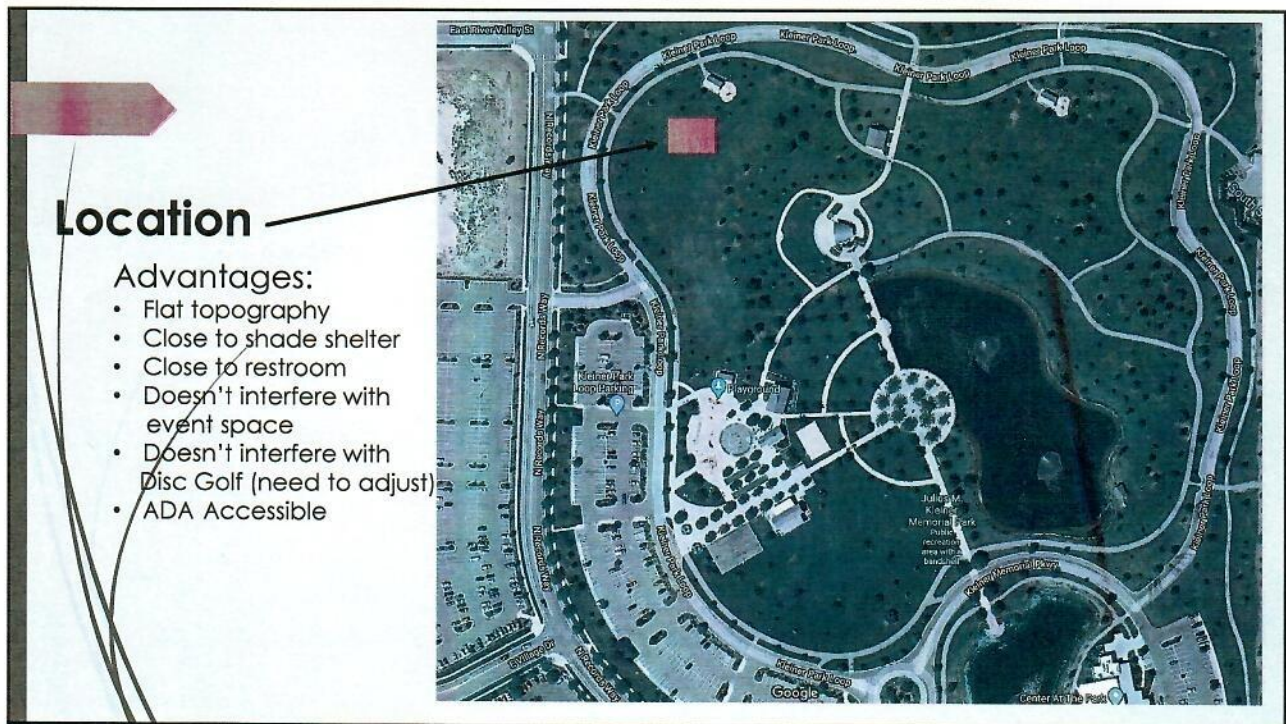
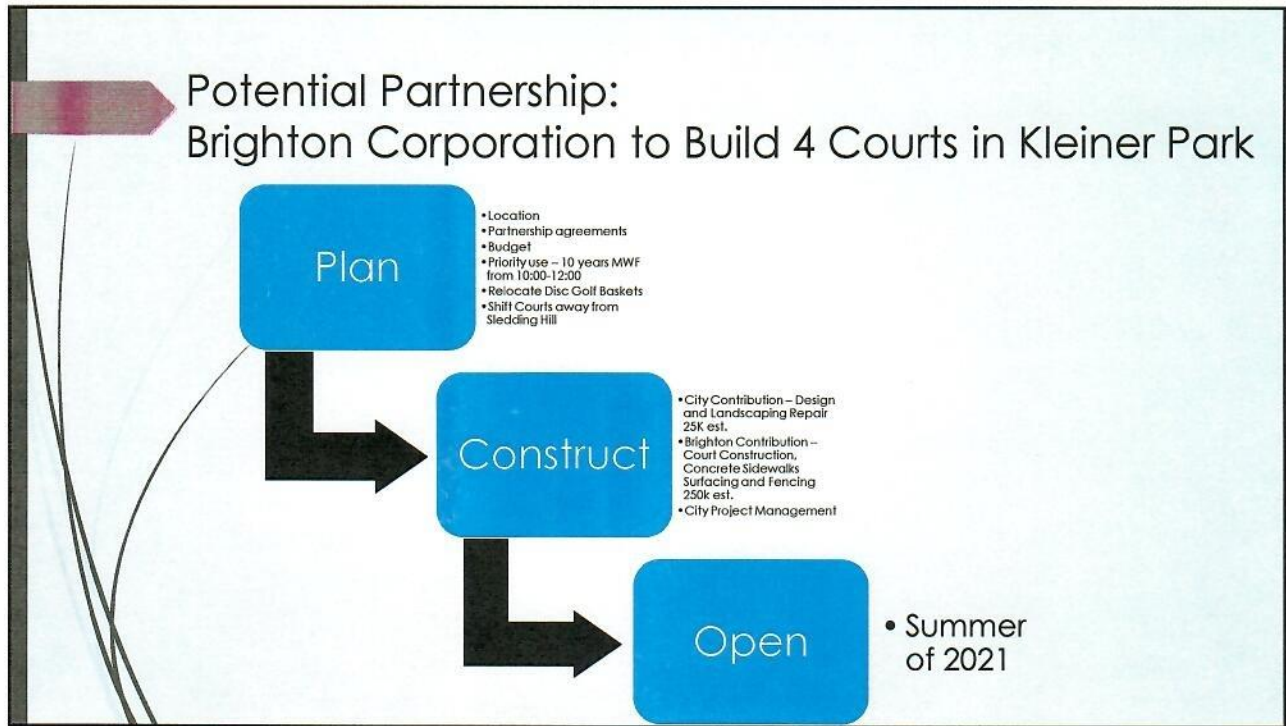
Most courts are dual use and lined for both pickleball + tennis.

Pickleball players should adjust tennis court net height back to their standard 36" before leaving courts.

Dedicated pickleball courts are indicated with *.

Courts located on school property are not available when school is in session.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| BOISE | MERIDIAN | MIDDLETON |
| 1* Hobble Creek Park | 14 Victory Middle School | 19 Birch Grove Middle School |
| 2 Castle Hills Park | 15* Sunnyside Park | 20 Birch Grove Community Center |
| 3* River Club Boise (Membership) | 16 Sunnyside Middle School | |
| 4 Catalpa Park | 17* Sunnyside Park | CALDWELL |
| 5 Boise Hills Park | | 22 Memorial Park (interlocking tile courts) |
| 6* Willow Lane Park | EAGLE | 21* Luby Park |
| 7 Cassia Park | 18 Friendship Park | NAMPA |
| 8 Terry Day Park | | 23 Lincoln Park |
| 9* Manitou Park | | 24* Highway Park |
| 10 Bagley Park | | 25 Nampa Rec Center |
| 11 Helen B. Lowder Park | | |
| 12 Cypress Park | | |
| 13 Peppermint Park | | |



Schematic Design

Note: Courts would be shifted away from the toe of the slope.



Thank You!

