

Desiree Adair

From: Kevin Glasheen [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 5:18 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Desiree Adair
Subject: Re: Pickleball in Rollingwood

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Thank you for your thoughtful email. We will include your email in the record for our next council meeting.

Kevin Glasheen
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On Dec 19, 2023, at 5:11 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Mayor Massingill and Council

As a retired business owner and HOA vice-president, I understand how hard it is for the city council to please everyone...especially in today's culture where people expect their own personal preferences to take priority over everyone else without compromise. The conflict regarding playing Pickleball at 3016 Hatley Drive is a typical example of such conflict. If you do not mind, I would like to weigh in with my own thoughts on the matter.

The four (4) pickleball courts in question share the same space as the tennis court that has been used at this address (by Corky Logue, his family, and friends for many years) – apparently without complaint. The tennis court is rarely used now and the pickleball courts are in use for 2 hours each weekday morning...standing empty the rest of the day. The courts are fully screened in and the people playing have switched to low noise paddles, making the noise level considerably lower than a tennis court. Standing outside of the courts when they are in use, the noise level seems very low to me personally and would not be something to which I would object if it were next to my own house...especially since playing (and hence any noise) is only between 8 and 10 am when much noisier activities are permitted (mowing lawns, trimming trees, building homes, etc). In the spirit of compromise, Corky has mandated the use of "quiet" paddles (tested to reduce the noise level), "quiet" balls (when officially available) and is planning to add additional acoustic screening around the courts.

For me, the most important issue is the sense of community. A community needs to be bound together by more than ideology – we need a sense of togetherness. When we meet in the morning to play pickleball, we are a diverse group. Some of us are conservative and some of us are liberal, some are democrats, and some are republicans, some are male and some are female. We come from a wide range of occupations and economic backgrounds. Most of us are retired (or close to it), but some are young with small children at home. What binds us together is the fellowship we find in playing a team sport together. None of us are there to crush the other person...we are there to support each other and share our lives together for an hour or two each morning.

For example, one of the men in our group recently lost his wife to cancer which is devastating as you can imagine. The people in this group pulled together to support hm and at the memorial service, we made up the majority of the people in attendance. And last weekend my wife and I had lunch with another

couple from this group that we would never have known had we not started by playing pickleball together. There are many other stories that could be shared.

I am personally 72 years old. After retirement I was looking for an activity where I could make friends and keep physically fit (for an old guy). A friend of mine invited me to come with him to play with a group of people I did not know (I had also never played pickleball before). It has been a real blessing for me as they included as another of their friends and taught me to play the sport (even if not very well). I look forward to getting together with them each morning.

In summary, I suggest that this type of group is a real benefit to the Rollingwood community. It is the kind of activity that binds us together. I also understand that there are one or two nearby, vocal neighbors who would like to see the whole thing go away. Is it not possible to reach a compromise (as Corky has proposed) and continue to allow an activity that blesses many people in the community?

Thank you for taking the time to read this email, and for serving on the council (which I am sure is a relatively thankless job).

Paul Hiller
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