CALL TO ORDER
President VanderVeen called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. This meeting was held at Sunset Community Center.

ROLL CALL
President VanderVeen called for the roll. Vice President Condon, Commissioner John Frankenthal, Commissioner Pat Lenski, Commissioner Jay Moffat and President Susan VanderVeen answered present.

Staff members present were Director Sheavoun Lambillotte, Administrative Assistant Amy McConnell, Supt. of Recreation Nicole Vickers, Director of Facilities Mike Younie & Sunset Facility Manager Joann Able.

Guests: Richard Hampton, Paul & Fran Fredricks, Dave Kammerer, Robert Rivers, Chuck Howlett, Larry Mayerhofer, Gary Pappas, Ken Garrison, James Nellis, Ken Lindstrom, Philip Traven, Pete Henley, Nick Rentas, Mark Hickey, James Monroe, Eric Harbach, Alan Fulton, Craig Moore, Larry Baloun, Larry Swanson, Jim Haiduk, Chris Sheehy & Ron Stevenson

Press: Susan Sarkauskas, Brenda Schory

HEARING OF GUESTS
1. Nick Rentas (racquetball, GENEVA resident) stated that he does not believe one court will accommodate all three leagues. Also, he feels usage of the rest of the facility is low & if they could recruit other people or train younger kids how to play the sport they could increase the usage of the courts.
2. Alan Fulton (handball, Batavia resident) feels that due to the limited amount of courts in the area that the Park District could do more marketing to increase numbers and asks for a year to try and increase usage.
3. Pete Henley (racquetball, GENEVA resident) uses the racquetball facilities in the winter to keep in shape for softball during the off-season. He is shocked that the usage numbers are so low because he feels it is always busy, but he does admit that this is during primetime. He asked if it were possible to increase fees to make up the lost revenue rather than take away a court.
4. Phil Traven (racquetball, GENEVA resident) would like to bring his kids to the facility so they can learn to play, as well as get other kids into the sport. He feels that two courts are necessary for competitions. Phil works out later at night feels that the fitness center is not that busy. He suggested that we take some machines out of the center & make a stretching area there. He doesn’t feel like we need to be competing with places that do crossfit etc.
5. James Nellis (racquetball, Batavia resident) feels that the social aspect of this sport would highly suffer if we went down to one court & feels we need two courts to run 3 leagues. He asked if we tracked usage of our playground, the tennis courts & fitness machines. He feels that we provide a reasonable rate to non-members & that is what keeps them coming back to Sunset. Mark asked if the recommendation to renovate the court was based upon the June 9th memo and if so why because he feels the numbers presented to the Board were incorrect.
6. Larry Swanson (racquetball, Aurora resident) has played here for 15 years because he likes our facility.
7. Mark Hickey (racquetball, GENEVA resident) stated that two courts are necessary because of the social aspects of the sport and sense of community they get from it. He referenced court usage numbers from January (one of the three highest usage months). He asked if we tracked usage of our playground, the tennis courts & fitness machines. He feels that we provide a reasonable rate to non-members & that is what keeps them coming back to Sunset. Mark asked if the recommendation to renovate the court was based upon the June 9th memo and if so why because he feels the numbers presented to the Board were incorrect.
8. Larry Mayerhofer (racquetball, GENEVA resident) believes that we are trying to compete with other fitness centers by adding new equipment. He provided the example that the pool is not a winter sport, but we don’t shut it down and turn it into something else. He believes the numbers staff has provided are incorrect & would like a year to prove that they can increase usage/numbers.
9. Craig Moore (GENEVA resident) feels that it is impossible to play on just one court because of how many people sometimes show up to play with his group.

10. Ron Stevenson (handball, GENEVA resident) has committed to more usage moving forward regardless of the Board’s decision. He believes that once we make the conversion we will never go back to having two racquetball courts. He feels that other room usage is low and that we should utilize those rooms more rather than take a court away. He also referred to documenting usage of the fitness equipment, baseball fields and other fields.

11. Rich Hampton (racquetball, GENEVA resident) wants to know that out of the 1,300+ surveys sent out what the return rate was. He would like to see utilization reports of the other equipment. He does not feel that one court will support the league’s usage.

12. James Monroe (racquetball, GENEVA resident) feels that the decision did not involve all the members of the community, nor the racquetball players specifically. If they would have had the opportunity to step up and increase the numbers they would have rose to the occasion.

**RACQUETBALL COURT RENOVATION DISCUSSION**

In response to a member’s comment, Director Lambillotte stated that in her business experience it does not make sense to increase fees on a sport that is declining in popularity. Staff has provided the Board with additional information since the last Board meeting which includes revenue & expense numbers for court utilization as well as fitness programming for TRX. The overall assessment is that one court will accommodate all league play, as well as provide 15 hours per week of non-league play use. This is using January, our highest usage month, with 40 league players as the basis for the projection. In months with less league usage the opportunity for non-league play goes up. The market has not promoted growth of this sport for many years, which is why several other locations have closed. Taking court usage, guest fees, permanent court time & league fees all into consideration revenue is in excess of $21,000 per year and court maintenance per year averages about $14,000. Staff feels we can recoup the remainder of that money with TRX small group fitness classes, other small group fitness classes and opportunities for those in personal training. Staff researched six other districts that have incorporated TRX systems into their fitness programming with a great amount of success. The results of our Community Survey, which is sent out to all residents of Geneva, are that the #1 & #2 need are for fitness programming and health & wellness programming. An email from Analisa & Gary Jaros, in favor of the new TRX system, was read aloud to be part of the public record. Vice President Condon spoke with Jim Lynch, a neighbor of hers that plays walleyball. He was disappointed in the decision to repurpose one of the courts, but he does understand why staff is recommending this conversion. Commissioner Moffat asked if there were any options in repurposing this court that won’t permanently alter the structure of the room. Director Lambillotte explained that the point of wanting to repurpose the space is due to utilization of the court being so low. Staff has had to look at how we could better make use of the space. Commissioner Frankenthal mentioned that due to health & safety concerns we cannot have members taking equipment in and out of the space. President VanderVeen stated that the other rooms in the building are multi-purpose and easier to work programming into the existing space.

**VOTE ON RACQUETBALL COURT RENOVATION**

Commissioner Lenski made a motion to move forward with the Board’s original decision to renovate & convert one racquetball court into a stretching/fitness class area. Commissioner Frankenthal seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Condon-aye, Frankenthal-aye, Lenski-aye, Moffat-aye and VanderVeen-aye. All ayes. Motion carried.

**ADJOURN**

Commissioner Lenski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. Commissioner Frankenthal seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

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Secretary

Submitted By: Sheavoun Lambillotte / Amy McConnell