

## Mercedes Barcia

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**Subject:** RE: Request to speak form please

-----Original Message-----

From: Suzanne Holway Jerry <schkitchen58@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:20 PM

To: Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>

Subject: Request to speak form please

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Lori,

We would like to submit the form for speaking in person at the public hearing to be held on May 11 th and through zoom at the meeting to be held May 25 th related to Ordinance No. 2021-17 . We are in ippposition to this proposal as directly negatively impacted residents given our proximity to the rezoning proposal by the VCDD .

Thank you  
Mark & Suzanne Jerry  
118 Savona Way  
VRGC

Sent from my iPhone Suzanne

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Venetian Golf & River Club  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021 10:10:03 AM

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For written correspondence - thanks.

-----Original Message-----

From: John Klepper <jmjklepper@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 10:09 AM  
To: Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
Subject: Venetian Golf & River Club

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

I'm writing in response to the City of Venice Public Hearing Notice regarding the Planning Commission's denial of the proposed Pickleball Court and Dog Park. My wife and I completely agree with the Commission's denial.

The proposed location for these amenities are completely disruptive to the neighborhood where they are being proposed to be located. Additionally, if approved as proposed, that location presents a great unattractiveness by being under the FPL power lines, plus additional traffic, noise, lighting, etc. to the nearby homeowner. Just as the golf course itself continues to struggle for membership due to the aging Venetian demographics, adding these changes to the Venetian will likely also be impacted by the increasing average age of the Venetian homeowners, the seasonal use nature of the population, and the fact that pickleball maybe a "fad" and the community has successfully existed without a dog park since its inception. Certainly there other available Pickleball opportunities within Venice and southern Sarasota county to Venetian residents.

It's my understanding Lennar has turned down a request to locate either or both within the golf course parking lot, and the sales center may be under contract by Lennar for sale, leaving few choices available for either of these within the gates. The River Club apparently does not have a viable alternative available, although the River Club parking lot as possible lot seems like a logical location, at least for some Pickleball courts. We believe the City of Venice has plans under way for a North Venice public park very near the Venetian, which likely will have Pickleball Courts for public use and possibly a public dog park as well. Those considerations seem sufficient given the limited value either of these provide directly to the Venetian neighborhood.

To be clear, we do not live within the Venetian near the location this hearing is considering. Our view, there are many practical issues with the proposed location which cannot be resolved and the Venetian CDD board has not or cannot offer a solution to where to locate these two things without upsetting nearby residents.

John & Sue Klepper  
206 Martellago Dr.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Appeal hearing for Pickleball & Dog Park at the Venetian G&RC  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021 1:46:35 PM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

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**From:** byron reynolds <byronsr75@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021 12:00 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** Appeal hearing for Pickleball & Dog Park at the Venetian G&RC

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

I would like to speak in favor of the courts and park, but the website does not work. Pickleball is an extremely popular sport especially among the seniors. I am 81 and able to play this game. It gets us out and active. Most of the new communities in Venice have built PB courts and dog parks for their residents to enjoy. There are many of us who live here in the Venetian who own dogs and would like to have them run free and get exercise while socializing with other dogs. We are not all physically able to play tennis or other demanding sports, but visit the Foxworthy courts any day and see the multitude of older players waiting their court time. For many of us, our lives will be enhanced with the ability to play PB or run our dogs within our community. Please support this appeal. Byron Reynolds, 238 Montelluna Drive, North Venice.

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: City of Venice Public Hearing Notice  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021 1:42:20 PM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

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**From:** Ken Deen <wkdeen@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021 1:48 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** City of Venice Public Hearing Notice

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

RE: Appeal of the City of Venice Planning Commission's denial of Site and Development Plan Petition No. 20-38SP for the construction of pickleball courts and a dog park along with associated parking and landscaping for the property located at 200 Pesaro Drive.

The Planning Commission made the correct decision in denying the Venetian Community Development District (VCDD) petition to build pickleball courts and a dog park under high power lines located adjacent to Pesaro Blvd in the Venetian Golf and River Club (VG&RC). The proposed location would cause unacceptable noise for nearby residences. It also fails a "common sense" test by putting an amenity under high power lines and thereby creating an unwanted liability risk for Venetian residents. The VCDD is appealing this decision to the City Council. My wife and I urge the City Council to ratify the decision of the Planning Commission by denying the appeal of the VCDD.

We do not support the location of pickleball courts under the high power lines or any other VG&RC location that infringes upon resident property rights. We do strongly support the City of Venice plans to build one or more parks in the rapidly growing North Venice area. Such parks are likely to include pickleball courts, a dog park and possibly other amenities which would serve the VG&RC as well as other communities in this area.

William K. and Lois Deen

106 Rimini Way  
N Venice FL 34275  
941-485-9587

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Appeal hearing on Proposed dog park at the Venetian G&RC  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021 1:46:39 PM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

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**From:** byron reynolds <byronsr75@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021 11:39 AM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** Appeal hearing on Proposed dog park at the Venetian G&RC

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

I would like to speak but the web site for the "request to speak" does not work. Pickleball is a fast growing sport that seniors love to play and it gets them active. Three developments near us have built pickleball courts and dog parks for their residents. Venice has built Pickleball courts at Foxworthy Park and the Community Center has court time there. Venice Newcomers Club

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: City of Venice Public Hearing Notice  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021 1:50:03 PM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

-----Original Message-----

From: FREDERIC S ALLEN <fsallen119@aol.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 3:48 PM  
To: Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
Subject: City of Venice Public Hearing Notice

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

RE: Appeal of City of Venice Planning Commission denial of Site and Development Plan Petition No. 20-38SP.

We believe The Planning Commission made the correct decision in denying the Venetian Community Development District (VCDD) petition to build pickleball courts and a dog park under high power lines located near Pesaro Blvd in the Venetian Golf and River Club (VG&RC).

The proposed location would cause unacceptable noise for nearby residences. It further would create an unnecessary liability risk for Venetian residents. We urge the City Council to ratify the decision of the Planning Commission by denying the appeal of the VCDD.

We do not support the location of pickleball courts at any location in the development that infringes on resident property rights.

We strongly support City of Venice plans to build a park in the growing North Venice area. Such a park could include pickleball courts, dog parks, and other amenities that would serve all the local developments in the area.

Frederic and Kathleen Allen  
190 Montelluna Dr  
North Venice, FL 34275  
585-635-8887

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: dog park and pickle ball courts at the VGRC  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021 2:36:22 PM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

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**From:** jacque <grandmere27@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021 2:27 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** dog park and pickle ball courts at the VGRC

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

I am not in favor of either of these additions. Everyone who bought residences at the VGRC did not move here because of these amenities. Pickleball is just a fad that will fade as did racquetball. I moved here for the fitness program which now needs a bigger facility and we could use a game room for cards, maj jongh and other games for members to socialize. This is where the money should be applied.

Jacquelyn A. Lease

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



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**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Venetian Golf & River Club Hearing  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021 12:19:41 PM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

-----Original Message-----

From: Karlene Abram <[kkabram2003@gmail.com](mailto:kkabram2003@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 11:10 AM  
To: Lori Stelzer <[lstelzer@venicefl.gov](mailto:lstelzer@venicefl.gov)>  
Subject: Venetian Golf & River Club Hearing

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

As a permanent resident of Venetian Golf & River Club, I am asking the Venice City Council to reject the VCDD plan to rezone the FPL right-of-way in order to establish pickle ball courts & a dog park. This area is residential & would negatively impact all homes in the area. Pesaro is already a busy street. As you are aware, Pickleball is played with 2-4 players per court. Multiply by 4 courts used each hour & that's a lot of traffic in & out. The noise is an additional concern.

The current tennis court area could be altered to accommodate new courts.

I appreciate your consideration.

Karlene Abram  
313 Savona Way

317-507-2918

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Hearing on Site and Development Plan Petition No. 20-38SP  
**Date:** Thursday, April 29, 2021 9:56:15 AM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

-----Original Message-----

From: Gary Scott <grscott520@gmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2021 9:29 AM  
To: Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
Subject: Hearing on Site and Development Plan Petition No. 20-38SP

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

To Whom it Concerns

My name is Gary Scott. My wife and I live at 164 Pesaro Drive which is about 200 or 300 yards up the street from the proposed pickleball courts and dog park.

I am against the construction of the courts and the dog park and I ask that the Council deny the appeal of the Planning Commission's decision. I am not against the construction of pickleball courts or a dog park in our community. I would most likely use the courts. But it seems to me that the plan to construct the courts and park at the proposed location is short sighted and ill conceived. The facilities would have no restrooms, parking would be limited, nearby neighbors would be adversely affected by noise and traffic, and the continued existence of the courts and park may be subject to the whim of Florida Power and Light who owns the easement.

It has been suggested by some that there is room for some courts in the area of the River Club. Perhaps a tennis court could be converted, or the basketball court or part of the current parking lot. At that location there would be restrooms and showers available, there is a good sized parking lot, and there would be no additional noise or traffic issues for the neighbors of the River Club.

If there is going to be construction of pickleball courts and a dog park, I suggest those in charge take the time to do it right.

Thank you for your consideration.

**From:** [Keith Cain](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Mazrin Judy](#); [Weisert Denny](#); [Lisowski Peter](#); [Keith Cain](#); [mark.kreighbaum@gmail.com](#); [sampaints4u@comcast.net](#); [pgryan777@gmail.com](#); [Gayle Cain](#)  
**Subject:** VGRC Site & Development Plan Petition #20-38 SP  
**Date:** Friday, April 30, 2021 4:01:08 PM

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**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Mayor Feinsod and Council Members:

Re: **VGRC Site & Development Plan Petition #20-38 SP**

As a resident of the Venetian Golf & River Club, I am requesting your help in trying to understand this appeal petition, particularly what it means for the future.

We recently received the City of Venice Notice regarding this Petition -- and I requested, and received, a copy of the petition.

Internally, this has been positioned to the residents as only necessary to "create a dog park and pickleball court within the Venetian Golf and River Club". However, after reading through the details, I'm uneasy since it seems much broader than this ... thus our concerns.

Specifically, "**Neighborhood Commercial**" points out:

"**A modification to the existing Neighborhood Commercial standards proposed by this development is the inclusion as a permitted principal use Assisted Living Facilities**".

There are numerous points outlined in the appeal that are concerning:

- Housing for the Aged
- Assisted Livings Facility
- Minimum setback of driveway
- Access to Laurel Road directly from the development
- The Golf club having tennis courts that it does not have at this time

Does this mean that an Assisted Living Facility -- or any other commercial property -- could be built in the Venetian if anywhere in our development is sold (i.e. Welcome Center, Golf Club, River Club, private residences, etc.)?

**To be clear, will the passage of this petition allow new facilities to be constructed at a later date, i.e., Housing for the Aged, Assisted Livings Facility, etc?**

I would appreciate clarity regarding the immediate and longer term implications for our community here at the Venetian.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Keith Cain  
118 Sevilla Pl.  
No Venice  
Fl 34275  
[keith.cain1@gmail.com](mailto:keith.cain1@gmail.com)

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: pickleball courts and ball park at the Venetian Golf and River Club  
**Date:** Friday, April 30, 2021 4:09:04 PM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

-----Original Message-----

From: Renee <[reneepearlman113@gmail.com](mailto:reneepearlman113@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 3:58 PM  
To: Lori Stelzer <[lstelzer@venicefl.gov](mailto:lstelzer@venicefl.gov)>  
Subject: pickleball courts and ball park at the Venetian Golf and River Club

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

In regard to the above I do not support the building of pickleball courts or the dog park at the location chosen at the Venetian. The issues are many and in include:

1. no bathrooms
2. electrical lines above
3. traffic and parking issues on this residential street.
4. dog park requires maintenance and needs to be monitored to be assured that the dogs are appropriately vaccinated.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely, Renee Pearlman

113 Medici Terrace  
North Venice, Fla 34275

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Ordinance 2021-17 VenetianGolf&RiverClub  
**Date:** Friday, April 30, 2021 1:41:43 PM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

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**From:** bros1950@aol.com <bros1950@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2021 12:14 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** Ordinance 2021-17 VenetianGolf&RiverClub

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

As I cannot be in attendance, I submit this email. I am a resident of the Venetian Golf and River Club.

I DO NOT support the dog park and pickleball construction.  
The Venice Planning Commission denial of that site should be supported by the City Council.

The quality of life for all residents need to be considered, not the minority who play pickleball or need a dog park. The impact of traffic in the immediate area is a concern and a safety hazard.

There are plenty of opportunities for these "amenities du jour" at many developments in this North Venice area if it is such a priority for the select few. People moved into this development, and continue to do so, for what it has and what it offers. The selling of homes has not slowed down and people choose to live in the Venetian Golf and River Club. Access to outside residents through the back exit near this proposed construction also will threaten the security of all residents.

Future plans for a park in North Venice with these amenities will also help.

Thank you.  
Beverly Rosignolo  
134 Bella Vista Terrace

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: VG&RC Pickleball and Dog Park  
**Date:** Monday, May 3, 2021 8:15:41 AM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

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**From:** John Del Negro <Jdelnegro@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2021 4:59 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** VG&RC Pickleball and Dog Park

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Ms. Stelzer:

I am writing you regarding the above subject matter and expressing both my wife and my consent on behalf of these needed amenities to the VG&RC. I believe in order for our property values to increase (City Venice real property tax a benefactor) we must keep pace with nearby communities offering these recreational activities and a park for dogs. The courts are located at the extreme end of the property several hundred feet from neighboring properties. It is located next to the Lennar maintenance facility which is unattractive and no mention is made of it by opponents. Also the Lennar facility is likely a noise buffer for the park and courts. The opponents mention the tennis courts, the homes where they are located are in closer proximity to the tennis courts than those where the pickleball and dog park will be. There are no known complaints about excess noise at the tennis facilities by neighbors. Additionally it is my understanding the pickleball courts will not have lights therefore any amount of noise will be confined to daytime thus providing a quiet free evening for nearby residents. A neighboring community has a dog park directly under the high tension wires and no member of your board found this to be of concern.

Finally in a worse case the opponents property values will remain constant but is likely they will increase as pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America and as you can see by the survey for a new park in the NE quadrant of Venice pickleball was the most requested feature. The courts are an incentive to live in the VG&RC.

This project has taken an excessive amount of time due to a minority of individuals opposition. The

silent majority see this development as positive. The issue with the utility company has been resolved and to use this as an excuse is to rehash an issue. Parking will not be an issue as many will ride their bicycles, walk or yes ride.

My wife and I VOTE YES, for the park and courts!!

John L. Del Negro  
157 Bella Vista Terrace  
Unit C  
Venice, FL 34275

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Hearing Venetian Golf and River Club  
**Date:** Monday, May 3, 2021 8:13:22 AM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

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**From:** fbanta@aol.com <fbanta@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 1, 2021 1:26 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Hearing Venetian Golf and River Club

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Dear Miss Stelzer,

Many of the Venetian residents were thrilled when this plan was rejected by the city. Many of us are not in favor of this project at the Pesaro location. A small contingent within the community has controlled the efforts of the committee to avoid placing the pickle ball courts in the most logical location within the existing tennis center. Communities throughout Florida have successfully converted a portion of their tennis centers to multi use courts and we could certainly do the same.

Public safety will be adversely affected by a facility built on a street that is already extremely congested. Pesaro drive is a major entry and exit point for the hundreds of homes located in the northeast section of the Venetian. Pesaro is also a significant portion of the three mile exercise loop used by walkers, joggers and bicyclists. On a daily basis there are a number of lawn maintenance trucks as well as pool and air conditioning service trucks parked on the street creating a number of choke points. Vehicle traffic is constant and drivers trying to enter or leave the Pesaro site would add to an already dangerous traffic conditions. To the best of our knowledge no traffic impact study was ever considered or done.

There are already dog friendly parks, Woodmere and Brohard, within reasonable distance of the community. A park within the Venetian would serve no useful purpose and could expose pet owners to the transmission of a number of animal disease from pets that have not been inoculated. There is also the history of dog attacks where large and small dogs are permitted off leash. We also don't know what legal exposure the community would have should a pet owner be attacked by an off leash dog.

The entire plan is ill conceived and is of no benefit to the community at large and we ask that the board reject the project bases on our safety concerns.

Concerned citizens

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: PICKLEBALL AND DOG PARK  
**Date:** Monday, May 3, 2021 8:06:03 AM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

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**From:** Paul LeFevre <plefevre42@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 2, 2021 5:43 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** PICKLEBALL AND DOG PARK

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WE LIVE 2 HOUSES FROM THE PROPOSED DISASTERS - THAT IS CLOSE ENOUGH TO BE GREATLY DISTURBED BY THE ACTIVITY, NOISE AND CONGESTION - WE SUSPECT THAT IF THIS GOES AHEAD THE VALUE OF OUR PROPERTY COULD DECREASE, OUR HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE COST COULD GO UP. AT AGE 78 I SETTLED HERE FOR THE SERENITY. THE COMBINATION OF THE NOISE, CONGESTION AND TRAFFIC IS A LOT TO INFLICT ON US. THERE ARE SAFER PLACES TO DO THIS

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: VGRG. Pickle all and dog park  
**Date:** Monday, May 3, 2021 2:37:29 PM

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**From:** Debbie <dws3956@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 2:35:00 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** VGRG. Pickle all and dog park

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I can not believe the city would even consider this appeal. It was voted down and should be again voted down.

I have had a home in VGRC since 2003. We have brought 9 families (and a possible 10 th) to the development. We and everyone else bought homes knowing they would not be putting a pickle ball court in. Who wants this next to them or the surrounding neighbors...no one. The small majority that want this have stated they would not want it next to them. The noise and traffic from dawn to dusk, no bathrooms and limited parking.

Needless to say the value of the surrounding properties decreases immensely. The prospect of this has these homes on the market and are un sellable.

Again a few make a lot of noise and want what they want. They do not care about others only their wants. If this is approved I will deeply regret having bought and stayed here.

The city has an obligation to ALL residents, not just the noisy ones.

Again, I am appalled that they city would consider this.

Please do not be swayed by the few... 1300 families would be affected by the wants of less than 175.

Please, please, please do not do this

Regards  
Debbie SHAFFER  
121 Bolanza Court  
North Venice, Fl  
34275

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Site and Development Plan No 20-38SP at VGRC  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 6:17:39 AM

---

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**From:** J Dawson Milne <jdawsonmilne@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 4:49:24 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** Site and Development Plan No 20-38SP at VGRC

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Members of Venice City Council

Please be advised that I am opposed to the construction of pickle ball courts at 200 Pesaro Drive. This is not a suitable location for such an activity because of lack of supporting amenities and the potential for disturbing the neighbours. If the demand is great they should be located at or near the River Club.

Sincerely  
J Dawson Milne & Helen Milne  
318 Savona Way

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Pickle ball courts and dog park  
**Date:** Monday, May 3, 2021 10:48:36 AM

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Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

-----Original Message-----

From: James Rog <[rogjd@comcast.net](mailto:rogjd@comcast.net)>  
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:42 AM  
To: Lori Stelzer <[lstelzer@venicefl.gov](mailto:lstelzer@venicefl.gov)>  
Subject: Pickle ball courts and dog park

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Current sought location will bring unwanted noise and may impact the value of our home on Savona way. Not against the idea of courts or park but there must be a better option for where to locate this project.  
Jim & Donna Rog

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Development Plan Petition 20-385P  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 6:15:33 AM

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**From:** John Manoush <jmanoush@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 6:06:34 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** Development Plan Petition 20-385P

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Good day. My wife and I are residents of the Venetian Golf community and would like to register our opinion on the subject petition concerning the construction of pickleball courts. We favor the construction of the courts as something that would enhance the recreational opportunities for all Venetian residents while presenting no significant harm to the nearest residents.

We do strongly recommend that every effort is made to shield the nearest residents (on Pesaro Drive) from any light, sound or traffic that would associated with the courts. We further recommend that attention be paid to the attractiveness of the layout and landscaping. Given the significant distance to those homes we do not think properly designed courts would negatively impact their property values. In fact, it is possible it would benefit those properties to have an attractive recreational area close by. Currently that area is an unkempt field that is hardly attractive or beneficial. The courts would benefit the great majority of Venetian residents who would welcome an opportunity to get involved in this relatively new sport that seems perfect for seniors.

Thanks for providing this opportunity to comment. Sincerely,

John and Kim Manoush  
193 Savona Way  
North Venice, FL 34275

(207)756-9260

jmanoush@comcast.net

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Kathy and Bob Alexander](#)  
**Cc:** [Bruce Fiedler](#); [rcautero@gmail.com](mailto:rcautero@gmail.com); [CChorba@vcdd.org](mailto:CChorba@vcdd.org); [Rick McCafferty](#); [EBooker@vcdd.org](mailto:EBooker@vcdd.org); [skleinglass@vcdd.org](mailto:skleinglass@vcdd.org); [rdrbracco@vcdd.org](mailto:rdrbracco@vcdd.org); [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Venetian Golf & River Club Pickle Ball Site Plans  
**Date:** Monday, May 3, 2021 2:23:15 PM

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Mr. & Mrs. Alexander,

Thank you for your email. It will be included in the written correspondence for this agenda item. For the future, when communicating with city council members, please use their city email addresses. Much appreciated.

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**From:** Kathy and Bob Alexander <rkalex524@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 2:14:34 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Cc:** Bruce Fiedler <goflyn@gmail.com>; rcautero@gmail.com <rcautero@gmail.com>; CChorba@vcdd.org <CChorba@vcdd.org>; Rick McCafferty <rmccafferty@vcdd.org>; EBooker@vcdd.org <EBooker@vcdd.org>; skleinglass@vcdd.org <skleinglass@vcdd.org>; rdrbracco@vcdd.org <rdrbracco@vcdd.org>  
**Subject:** Venetian Golf & River Club Pickle Ball Site Plans

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To all:

My wife and I have been property owners at the Venetian Golf & River Club since its inception in 2003. We are writing this email to express our opposition to the proposed location selected by the Venetian CDD Board for pickle ball courts at 200 Pesaro Dr. in the VG&RC in N. Venice.

We have played pickle ball and are familiar with the game but most importantly aware of the noise it creates. The location selected by the CDD Board is directly adjacent to homes in a quiet area of the development. These homeowners chose to purchase their homes in that area knowing it is a normal quiet area of the community. To place these courts in such close proximity to them creates unwelcome noise, traffic and certainly affects their home values.

The location selected is located on an FPL right of way. High tension wires and poles surround the area. No parking or bathroom facilities exist.

The community Master Plan calls for all recreational activities (tennis, swimming) to be in the area of the River Club. That is the concept all homeowners bought into when they purchased homes at the Venetian. If the courts are to be built they should be located in the River Club area. The space does exist there for 2-3 courts. Also, any of the tennis courts can be marked for pickle ball. At the River Club parking is available, water fountains are present and bathrooms are there. Any immediate neighbors to the River Club bought their homes fully aware of the noise associated with a recreational area. So following the original Master Plan is doable with no need to disrupt any other area of the community.

We ask the City Council to stand by the Planning Commission's decision to deny approval of the Venetian CDD's Board site plans for pickle ball courts at 200 Pesaro Dr. in the VG&RC.

Thank you,

Robert and Kathryn Alexander  
414 Montelluna Dr.  
N. Venice, FL 34275  
941-412-9295

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Vote NO on the appeal of the Venetian Dog Park and Paddle Tennis Courts  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 6:17:19 AM

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**From:** Michael Churilla <mpchurilla@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 5:00:42 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** Vote NO on the appeal of the Venetian Dog Park and Paddle Tennis Courts

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**VOTE NO ON THE APPEAL** of the VENETIAN Paddle Ball and Dog Park

**Do not over turn the Venice City Planning Board.  
They got it right!**

**The location is not right for these activities. They are in the middle of a residential area.**

**They are Noisy. Paddle Ball hits- klunks, klunks, klunks from 9am to 9pm - You won't want to hear that by your house.**

**The property values of these home in the area will be greatly reduced. That is not fair!!!! They purchased when these things were not on the plans.**

**We have 1400 homes at the Venetian and these two activities would service very few residents. It is estimated about 10%.**

**The Venetian CDD board needs to wait until they buy the Welcome Center. That would be the perfect area for these two activities. It is not that we are against the activities, we are against the location. They made the wrong decision. The Venice City Planning Board thought so.**

**If the CDD was required to hold a whole town vote for the approval it would be voted down!**

**The 5 CDD officials for some reason don't want to listen to the majority of the residents. They don't represent the majority on this issue.**

**VOTE NO ON THE APPEAL!!**

**Michael & Juanita Churilla**

**160 Pesaro Drive, Venetian Golf and River Club Community**

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Info for City Council for Ordinance No. 2021-17  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 6:18:09 AM  
**Attachments:** [Pickle Ball Venice Mayor and City Council Letter.docx](#)  
[VCDD Letter Pickle Ball Courts and a Dog Park.docx](#)  
[Pickleball noise creates a human health risk Newspaper Article.docx](#)

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**From:** John Moeckel <jcminfl@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 4:07:05 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** Info for City Council for Ordinance No. 2021-17

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Hi Lori,

Please provide my public comments to city council members on Ordinance No. 2021-17

See attached.

Best,

John Moeckel

Attachment 1. Pickle Ball Venice Mayor and City Council Letter  
Attachment 2. VCDD Letter Pickle Ball Courts and a dog park.  
Attachment 3. Newspaper article on Pickle Ball Noise.

May 3, 2021

Dear Venice City Mayor and Council,

I listened to the February 2<sup>nd</sup> zoom Planning Commission meeting on PUD Amendment 20-37RZ. This is the amendment to allow Pickle Ball and a Dog Park as amenities within the Venetian Golf and River Club Community.

There were two votes and the vote tally was 5 to 2 to not approve and the second vote 6 to 1 to not approve.

### **My comments:**

1. It was presented that it was the opinion of Rick Schappacher the VCDD engineer that the entire community was represented as being in favor of the amendment. This is not true for many reasons. There was never a specific survey to the entire community or specific communications regarding this project. Yes, there were some 15 VCDD meetings that had this topic on the agenda. However, my guess, is that fewer than 5% to 10% community residents even look at the agenda or that ever go to these meetings. Unless, direct emails are sent out the community is not really informed. The July 13, 2020 public hearing workshop was referenced. However, only 57 homes within 250 feet were notified. Not the entire community of 1377 homes. Additionally, in July 40% to 50% of the residents are gone for the summer so the feedback would be minimal.
  2. There are significant safety issues and liability issues with the location specified under the FPL power lines. The FPL agreement is that the VCDD accepts all liability of these amenities regardless of what they are. The VCDD Board voted to accept this liability, however there are many in the community do not want to accept this liability.
  3. There was conversation about the dog park. One topic was that fences are not allowed in our community so dogs can't run without having a fenced dog park. That is not completely true. Homeowners are allowed to have invisible dog fences. This does allow for their pets to run free within their yards.
  4. The noise pollution about pickle ball is true even though the VCDD engineer would have you believe otherwise. There would be significant noise from these amenities. These sounds travel long distances and an 8-foot sound fence on 2 sides of the pickle ball courts, and no sound fence around the dog park would do minimal to nothing to buffer the noises. Every home in our community deserves to have quiet enjoyment of their homes. If you bought near the recreational area designated on our PUD at the River Club, then you bought into whatever noise is created there. The rest of community did not buy near the recreational facility. Another note, the Venice noise ordinance that Rick the engineer referenced did a very poor job of protecting our community from noises generated by the industrial area to our north. I have zero confidence that the noise ordinance would be of any value in the new amenities proposition.
- Rick Schappacher, the VCDD engineer apparently has done some unscientific sound studies. I have zero faith that any of these studies would provide valid findings. Additionally, I believe because of this and his statements in front of the Planning Commission that there was community wide buy-in, which is not true, I believe any sound study he would do represent a conflict of interest.

Please see the attachment titled "Professional Sound Studies" by Will Thornton, Thornton Acoustics & Vibrations Consulting Engineers in Acoustics, Vibrations & Noise Control. This information illustrates the awful noises and level of noise generated by pickle ball. The studies this company has done is an eye opener to severity of pickle ball noise. I'm recommending that the VCDD engage this company to do a qualified and professional sound study, if this amenity is approved.

**5. Four homes right next to the proposed pickle ball and dog park went up immediately for sale. We understand that the owner of one of the homes passed away, however the other three we believe are for sale because of this location. One of those homes recently sold which is no more than 60 feet from the proposed pickle ball courts and we are trying to find out if this information was disclosed to the new owner before they bought it.**

6. There is no evidence that property values are enhanced by adding 4 pickle ball courts and a small dog park. However, all properties located nearby have a big chance of diminished value of their properties. Go out and Google "Florida pickle ball community problems" to see the community problems in building pickle ball courts in established neighborhoods. It is a big problem and has pitted neighbor against neighbor.

**7. A reasonable solution:** All 6 of our current tennis courts are clay. Clay pickle ball courts are now being built instead of hard courts and are quite successful. Google "Jarrett Chirico" to get more information. It turns out that this is better than hard courts because they are soft, like clay tennis courts. Older players will find this surface to be so much easier on the body.

Three pickle ball courts could be built at the River Club and that would take up 13 parking places out of 145 parking places. We would end up with 132 parking places and 11 golf cart parking places.

We could then mark 1 clay tennis court with pickle ball markings. That court could be utilized for both tennis and pickle ball activities on some schedule and continue to meet the tennis league requirements for 6 clay courts. You would have 3 full time clay pickle ball courts and 1 part time Pickle ball/tennis court, which equates to 2 pickle ball courts, for a total of 5 pickle ball courts. If the River Club is selected there needs to be some compromise with the tennis players.

The denial by the Planning Commission was very clear, the power line location is not compatible with the nearby residential homes and there are not supporting facilities such as parking, water or rest rooms. Pickle Ball Courts are compatible in the River Club facility and there is parking, water and rest rooms. The control and supervision for the current recreational facilities is at the River Club. This new location is a mile away. Therefore, almost zero control and supervision.

Additionally, no sound boards would be needed at the River Club, a reduction in costs.

**With this solution there is no loss of quiet enjoyment of anyone's property elsewhere in the community.**

8. There are no other locations in our community that are suitable for these amenities. The Pickle Ball Committee and the VCDD looked at the possibility of courts on the west side of the parking lots of the golf course. We actually stopped WCI from building basketball courts there some 14 years ago. This location is terrible as it would affect the quiet enjoyment and property values of some 26 homes on Treviso Court and multiple homes on Martellago Drive. I can guarantee that this location would not be acceptable to most of those homes.

The VCDD recently continued to push this solution by creating a draft leasing agreement and submitted it to Lennar, the golf course owner. They did this knowingly of the large number of homes that would be negatively affected. In the past Lennar flatly turned this down. This time they said, send us your agreement and we will review. They reviewed it, said no, however, they said "NO AT THIS TIME". That leaves the door open and "when" the golf course sells it would more than likely be considered again. I can't tell you how frustrating this is to a large number of homeowners living under this on-going threat.

9. If the River Club location is turned down, then the possibility of a new park in North Venice is the best alternative. It would be close by with the possibility of numerous pickle ball courts, dog park, and other amenities. The process is already underway, with the city approved Stake Holders Committee.

As you are aware there is \$25,000 available for the initial study by the Stakeholders Committee. And if you approve the study and move forward with this city park project then \$100,000 is available for the design. With another \$3,500,000 and an additional \$500,000 funding per year for building.

I have recommended that the Racquet Sports Committee in our community work with members of the stakeholder Committee on this project. It would be interesting if that has ever happened.

**I very much support pickle ball courts on property, only if it is built at the River Club.**

**I hope all City Council Members will tour the property where the proposed Pickle Ball and Dog Park would be located under the power lines to see firsthand that location's issues and take all of it in consideration. Then, tour the River Club to see how it would be appropriate for the new pickle ball courts.**

**Recommendation: Deny the VCDD's request to put the proposed amenities under the power lines, as this will damage the quiet enjoyment of the nearby properties and possibly damage their property values. The power line location is not compatible with any new recreational amenities.**

Respectfully submitted,

John Moeckel

March 1, 2021

## **Pickle Ball Courts and a Dog Park.**

VCDD Supervisors,

The Venice Planning Commission turned down the proposed Pickle Ball courts and Dog Park and this was based on the City Development Code. It was DENIED for the following reasons;

**The above whereas clauses are ratified and confirmed as true and correct. Section 2. Based on the testimony and evidence presented, Site and Development Plan Petition No. 20-38SP is hereby DENIED as it does not meet the requirements of Section 86-23(m)(2), (5), (9) & (10) of the City Land Development Code, for the following reasons: a. the proposed improvements are incompatible with adjacent residential properties; and b. adequate supporting facilities such as parking, water, and restrooms are not provided.**

What I heard in your VCDD meeting February 8 was this was supposed to be a “slam dunk”. Nothing could be further from the truth. Approvals are not necessarily slam dunks. Were the denial reasons discussed in the meeting? I couldn’t tell as the Zoom Meeting was almost impossible to hear and the video movement was almost impossible to follow. Wouldn’t that be important to understand and discuss the denial reasons? I couldn’t tell if they were or not. What I heard was the VCDD needed to protect its legal rights. And by doing that there was a vote 3-2 approving to fight the denial legally. Do the Supervisors have any idea of how much this may cost to legally fight this denial? It was said that the appeal paperwork did not cost much. So, was this approval made without any idea of the total costs? This appeal would likely cost many thousands of dollars if outside legal counsel was acquired. Do we have that kind of money to spend?

### **In my opinion it all comes down to this:**

1. There is a Master Plan (PUD) which specifies the location of recreational facilities within our community is at the River Club, except for the golf activities. Residents who buy their homes in that area are fully aware of those recreational activities. No surprises.
2. The placement of pickle ball courts and a dog park anywhere else in the in the community can and will have a direct negative impact on those nearby homes. Just Google “Pickle Ball Problems in Florida” to get a sampling of other established communities where Pickle Ball courts were built after the community was established. There are real horror stories out there. Property values are affected in a negative way and neighbors are pitted against neighbor.
3. The location where you have proposed these activities, under powers line is a terrible location for so many reasons. However, the biggest reason is that it would be right next door to several homes. The nearest home would be no more than 50 to 75 feet away. Why are the wants of pickle ball players more important than private property quiet enjoyment rights? The Planning Commissioners through their denial got it right; not compatible.
4. Pickle Ball Tournaments: How would pickle ball tournaments be handled in regards parking, facilities, bathrooms, etc?

## 5. There are two other possible solutions:

**A. At the River Club:** Clay pickle ball courts are now being built and are quite successful. Google “Jarrett Chirico” to get more information. It turns out that this is better than hard courts because they are soft, like clay tennis courts. I have heard that they may cost less than hard courts. For older players this surface is so much easier on the body.

I understand you can build 3 pickle ball courts at the River Club that would take up 13 parking places. If you make them clay you could then mark 1 tennis court with pickle ball markings. That court could then be utilized for both activities on some schedule and continue to meet the tennis league requirements for 6 clay courts. You would have 3 full time clay pickle ball courts and 1 part time Pickle ball/tennis court. There are 145 parking places at the River Club. If you took 13 away you end up with 132. I believe this will meet the code for the city. Additionally, there are 11 golf carts spaces. I know there are times when there are more cars than parking spaces, however, this doesn't happen very often and residents can park close to the River Club, walk and/or drive their golf carts. If the River Club is selected there needs to be some compromise with the tennis players.

Another possible aspect is that pickle ball, over time, will be played by more tennis players. If that is the case here at our club, then more of the tennis courts could become dual courts so both sports may be played and enjoyed.

The denial by the Planning Commission was very clear, the power line location is not compatible with the nearby residential homes and there are not supporting facilities such as parking, water or rest rooms. Pickle Ball Courts are compatible in the River Club facility and there is parking, water and rest rooms.

Pickle Ball tournaments could be held at the River Club just as tennis tournaments are held.

No sound boards would be needed at the River Club, a reduction in costs. And Management and supervision is located at the River Club.

**B. The new North Venice City Park:** As you are aware there is a park being planned for North Venice. A Stake Holders Committee has been established by the city to complete a study. There has been \$100,000 allocated to study this project with another \$3,500,000 funding available to develop a park(s). Additionally, another \$500,000 per year will be collected and available. Almost all of these dollars came and will come from North Venice residents.

It has been identified and is clear through a survey sent out to our community from the Community Association that the community wants a North Venice Park with pickle ball and a dog park. There may very well be other recreational activities at this park. Another study for all of North Venice is being conducted at this time also. **If not already started your Pickle Ball Committee should be working with this Stake Holders Committee.** There are no guarantees that we will end up with a new park or parks in North Venice, however, with community support, city, and county support I believe we can be successful. There is only one park in North Venice today, with 40+ parks elsewhere in the city. We deserve this park.

Additionally, there are pickle ball courts available at the Laurel/Nokomis School. Jack Wilson and I worked with the school system to get them to convert their tennis courts for pickle ball. They are available most weekend days and, in the summer, when summer school is not in session. Have any pickle ball players from our community even played there before?

**6. Pickle Ball Courts on the west side of the golf club parking lot:** Pickle Ball was not on the agenda for the February 22 VCDD meeting; however, it appears that major decisions were made on this subject. I now understand that Mr. Booker is going to engage Lennar to create a long-term lease on this property, even though WCI and Lennar have turned down on more than one occasion any option for pickle ball courts. Additionally, in the previous VCDD meeting a decision was made to appeal the Planning Commission decision with outside legal counsel, however, somehow, somewhere a decision was made to enlist Andy Cohen's legal services, which I understood was a conflict of interest, to file the appeal with Rick Schappacher being the agent. How does this work?

In conversations with Mr. Booker, he told me he was not in favor of the option of pickle ball under the power lines, and I indicated to him the "Major" issues with that activity in the golf course parking lot. He said he had not heard of that option before I told him. It appeared to me that he agreed with me that this was not a good option either. Now it appears that he has done a 180 degree turn as he voted for the appeal for the power line option and is now supporting the parking lot option. Recently I have tried to reach out to Mr. Booker for more discussions. I told him when I saw him at the golf course that I would like to speak to him. I sent 2 text messages, and left a voice message. He has not responded. Extremely disappointing. I can't tell you how upsetting and disappointing all of this is to me and my wife. My wife has been in tears over this!

When it was presented 2 years ago by the pickle ball committee, I spoke to the VCDD Board detailing why this was a terrible idea and would not be acceptable to the residents on Treviso Court. I presented a petition stating that several residents on Treviso Court were against this idea.

In listening to the VCDD meeting on February 22, I heard Mr. Bracco, again, state he is working to try to have Lennar allow pickle ball courts in the parking lot and the VCDD pay for it. The zoom meeting quality was pitiful and it almost impossible to understand most of the conversations, so I don't know what else was said on this non-agenda topic.

To all VCDD Board members, how would you like to have the VCDD approve a recreational activity in your back yard that would destroy the quiet enjoyment of your home to the point that you would want to move?

There are 25 homes on Treviso Court that would be directly affected if pickle ball courts were built on the golf course parking lot. It is a short distance to our homes across water. Water magnifies the sound!

I just received a copy of a layout of pickle ball courts labeled by Rick Schappacher's engineering company for the west end of the golf course parking lot. So, this line of thinking has been going on for some time, without anyone reaching out to the home owners on Treviso Ct. for their input. Unbelievable!! More angst for my family and my neighbors! Another thing I just heard was that the original golf course layout included tennis courts. That option was never disclosed in our closing documents and if it had we would never have purchased our home on this lot.

Another issue is the noise from pickle ball players disturbing the golf players on the driving range. It would become difficult for the golfers to focus on their warm ups and practice sessions.

When the cart barn was located there, we could hear conversations and when they cleaned the golf balls with the machine, the noises were loud and annoying almost every day.

On several occasions we have asked for Chris Souchak to turn down the volume of the speaker system at the golf club which is twice as far away as that sound was so loud. There is almost nothing but water between our homes on Treviso Ct. and the parking lot so sounds travel easily. Now you want the sound of pickle ball playing 7 days a week to virtually be in our back yards. Pickle ball activities are loud and any so-called soundproofing will be useless. Landscaping does not buffer sound either. The Venice City noise ordinance is virtually useless. Just ask our residents who live on the north side of the community, in relationship with the industrial industries.

How would you like some new noisy activity virtually, in your back yard disturbing your quiet enjoyment 7 days a week. This activity is completely INCOMPATABLE with homes on Treviso Court.

The quiet enjoyment of our homes would be destroyed, and our property values likely harmed.

When we bought our home, we carefully researched this lot and was assured by the Master Plan that we would have a very quiet setting to enjoy. We, along with most residents here paid a lot premium for views and quiet enjoyment.

Now, it appears that the pickle ball committee and members of the VCDD don't care about the quiet enjoyment of properties, as long as they get their pickle ball courts. We really hope that is not the case.

The pickle ball committee has never reached out to me or anyone else on Treviso Court to my knowledge. Why is that? The transparency on this is incomprehensible.

I can guarantee that this location will not be acceptable to the majority of those homes on Treviso Court.

There are better solutions and I assure you this will be not acceptable to residents on Treviso Ct.

## **Conclusion:**

In my opinion there is only one location in the community for pickle ball and that is at the River Club. The Master Plan (PUD) is very clear on this. When we all bought our homes none of us would have believed that the quiet enjoyment of our homes could be damaged by an incompatible activity. You should and must protect all of us!

If my solution at the River Club is not acceptable, then a new North Venice Park is certainly a great solution. No disruption to our community and the best part is no additional cost to the homeowners.

I find accepting all liability from FPL for the new amenities under the power lines disturbing. I do not want to accept this responsibility.

It continues to be extremely difficult to follow what is being discussed and direction the Board is taking on all of this. Impossible to follow all of the details in the meeting because of the quality of the

zoom meeting. And no minutes are published for a time period before they are approved. Even then you have to make a special request to Belinda to get a copy. Very frustrating. I understand from Belinda that the minutes aren't posted to the website because they are not required to be posted under statutes. Why aren't they posted? That would make it easier on Belinda and for the 1377 resident homes to follow what the VCDD Board is doing. Please consider posting the minutes when they are approved.

I know there is a lot of pressure on our VCDD budget. My guess is we don't have enough funds to do all of things we really need to get accomplished. So, why spend some \$188,000 or more on 4 pickle ball courts when the costs would be much lower at the River Club.

Please, do not allow pickle ball courts to be built in the west side of the golf course parking lot.

My comments are strictly from me and my wife, not the Community Association. Over the past 17 years here I have spent many thousands of hours working on projects outside our community here in North Venice, to protect the wellbeing and property values of our community. I am now wondering if all of that effort was wasted, as it appears that I can't get the VCCD Board to protect our properties internally?

Please protect all individual property rights within our community as I have tried to protect our properties from outside influences.

This has been hanging over our heads for going on for 2 years now, and it makes my wife and I sick.

**Make it stop. Please.**

I hope you will take my comments constructively and consider the solutions I have presented.

C. Venice City Mayor and Council Members,

Venice Planning Commissioners.

# ‘Pickleball noise creates a human health risk,’ study says

- By DANIEL SUTPHIN Staff Writer

- Apr 18, 2019 Updated Jul 17, 2020

- \_1

Punta Gorda Historic District homeowner Bernie DePaul presents his story on suffering a stroke he connected to pickleball and presents findings from a 2017 noise impact study he had conducted at the Gilchrist Park pickleball courts.

SUN PHOTOS BY DANIEL SUTPHIN

Punta Gorda Historic District homeowner Bernie DePaul presents his story on suffering a stroke he connected to pickleball and presents findings from a 2017 noise impact study he had conducted at the Gilchrist Park pickleball courts.

SUN PHOTOS BY DANIEL SUTPHIN

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PUNTA GORDA — Punta Gorda Historic District homeowners in Punta Gorda served up another shot against pickleball play in Gilchrist Park at Wednesday’s City Council meeting.

During previous council meetings, homeowners along West Retta Esplanade said the noise causes anxiety, panic attacks and insomnia.

Bernie DePaul, who owns a house across from the courts, blames the noise for his stroke a few years ago.

“The noise across the street was relatively constant,” DePaul said. “I didn’t need a medical doctor to tell me it was bothering me. It’s been bothering me for years. When I went into the emergency room, the physician said there is nothing wrong with you ... we can’t figure it out.”

Wednesday, DePaul presented to the council findings from a 2017 noise impact study he paid to have conducted in the area.

William Thornton, of Thornton Acoustics and Vibrations, wrote in his findings:

- The pickleball noise creates a human health risk as the link between certain types of noise (which includes the type of noise emitted by pickleball) and the risk of hypertension, heart disease, etc. is well established.
- The pickleball noise exceeds the limits set for in objective, science-based community noise ordinances as promulgated by communities similar to Punta Gorda.
- The pickleball noise exceeds accepted U.S.
- and international standards and guidelines (such as those produced by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, World Health Organization, etc.) for community and environmental noise emissions/levels.
- The pickleball noise significantly increases the community noise levels (relative to existing ambient noise levels) and the relationship between community noise increase and human impact/annoyance is well established in the scientific body of knowledge.
- There are no effective means (other than enclosing the entire pickleball court in a well-designed building) of reducing the noise emitted by the pickleball courts such as noise walls, barriers or screens. Although these types of solutions are frequently suggested, they are not effective (for reasons of fundamental physics) and will not reduce the noise to acceptable levels.

Thornton Acoustics has completed over 1,500 projects of similar nature since 1972, according to the company’s website.

“For the last 19 months, I’ve had every test that you can run that’s pertinent to my situation again and again,” DePaul said. “I have seven physicians – neurosurgeons, neurologists and cardiologists – that are waiting and ready to be deposed. I don’t have any more time for this ... I’ve never sued anybody ... but there’s no more time as far as I’m concerned.”

The City Council members did not comment on DePaul’s presentation.

Vice Mayor Lynne Matthews told the *Sun* that since council members just appointed a committee to review all the aspects of the pickleball situation, “we need to let them do their due diligence job.”

On March 6, the City Council established a pickleball committee as a fact-finding initiative. The committee suggested having a new noise impact study conducted. Details of that study were not available at the time of this report.

City staff is also in the process of purchasing and constructing an “acoustical” fence to dampen the noise at the Gilchrist courts. The timeline for that action is still being determined.

“Citizens are only asking you to uphold your sworn duty to protect our health, safety and welfare,” said Peggy Keen of the Historic District. “Pickleball is only a game, but the stakes for the residents of the Historic District are more dire.”

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Proposed VGRC dog park / pickleball courts  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 6:16:41 AM

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**From:** Robert Pentecost <[robt.pentecost@gmail.com](mailto:robt.pentecost@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 5:11:44 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <[lstelzer@venicefl.gov](mailto:lstelzer@venicefl.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Proposed VGRC dog park / pickleball courts

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Ms. Stelzer:

I wish to register my continued opposition to the proposed Dog Park / Pickleball Courts in Venetian Golf and River Club, for the reasons cited in my previous mail shown below.

I am not opposed to the park, only to its location. The park will unfairly lower property values of the homeowners near or adjacent to the proposed site.

Several of the affected homes have been on the market for sale for over a year. After the Planning Commission's vote not to approve, the most affected home promptly sold and another one is pending. This is a pretty good indication that the mere prospect of the park has been a deterrent to sales.

Thank you for allowing me to express my concerns.

Robert Pentecost  
225 Pesaro Dr. 34275  
(706) 306-4100

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Robert Pentecost <[robt.pentecost@gmail.com](mailto:robt.pentecost@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sat, Jan 30, 2021 at 6:12 PM  
**Subject:** Proposed VGRC dog park / pickleball courts  
**To:** <[lstelzer@venicegov.com](mailto:lstelzer@venicegov.com)>

Sir / Madam:

I live at 225 Pesaro Dr. near the proposed dog park / pickleball courts which are set for a public hearing on February 2. Please register my opposition to the project.

If built, this proposal will significantly reduce the peace and quiet presently enjoyed by those of us who live nearby. Vehicle and pedestrian traffic will increase and insufficient parking

spaces will cause dangerous on-street parking on our narrow roadway. In addition, excessive noise and light pollution will be introduced.

These undesirable effects will almost certainly reduce values of nearby homes. **At present, the three homes nearest this project are all up for sale!** Two of them have been on the market for over a year and remain unsold even in today's brisk seller's market.

This project will unfairly increase POA fees for all homeowners, including those who will not use the facilities and whose home values will be reduced.

This project will be a detriment to me and my family and we oppose it.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Pentecost  
225 Pesaro Dr.  
North Venice  
(706) 306-4100