



INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF OCEAN BEACH

Public Informational Meeting – Tennis and Recreation

Minutes of the Meeting of the Public Informational Meeting for Tennis and Recreation for the Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach, Suffolk County, New York held on January 3, 2024 conducted via Zoom.

There were present: Trustees: Marco Arment
Ian Levine
Jennifer Moritz
Village Administrator: Joseph DiFrancisco

Trustee Levine opened the meeting at 6:01PM. No acts, decisions, motions or resolutions were acted upon during the Informational Tennis and Recreation Meeting.

Trustee Levine: All right, guys, just so, you know, um. I'm assuming I'll be the only one speaking. Maybe Joe will put some comments in there as well. First of all, thank you all for coming. Hope everybody had a happy holiday. Um. I this is my second or this is our second meeting that we're having with the, uh, Tennis Committee. Uh, and we've added a lot more people to it, only because we're trying to figure out what we want to do with our tennis and sports area that we have in the village. Um, a lot of people have been giving me a lot of input, and I know they've been talking to Jen and to the other trustees as well. So, thank you to everybody for, uh, doing that. And, uh. You know, making it, uh. Uh, you know, go along as smoothly as possible. Um, as always, I will say, when I start these meetings, I am one trustee. I am one vote. There are five people on the board with the village, and we have to. Three people have to agree in order to get something done. Um, so I will say that your input is very important. Um, if you like what you hear tonight or you don't like what you hear tonight, we have a village meeting coming up on the 13th (of January @11:15 am) at that meeting.

Trustee Levine: Uh, you guys are all welcome to speak. Um, and give your input whether you agree or disagree. Uh, we do want to hear from you. That's the American way. Everybody has an opinion, and everybody's opinion counts. And we want to hear what you guys are doing. Um, when I first ran for office, and I know Jen, we were the last two trustees to get elected. Uh, we both ran on, uh, making sure that we were transparent, making sure that we listened to what people had to say. And, uh, that's what this is about. We want to hear your input. We want you to be involved. We want you to know that we are listening. And, uh, you know, we really want that to be the way that it is when we go forward. Um, right now, what I want to do is, Joe, can you unmute Joe DeFrancisco, our village administrator? Um, and if you can just give a quick report on, uh, just the status of the village and the tennis area and what's going on there.

Joseph DiFrancisco: Yes, yes. Thank you. Ian. Uh, hold on one second. Let me take myself off of, uh, video. There we go. Um, so, um, happy New Year, everybody. Uh, so I'm sure most of you have not been to the village recently. Uh, it's pretty torn up right now. Uh, but that's all part of this process with the new stormwater system that's going in. Uh, the tennis courts are not there right now. Uh, but the project is moving along. Uh, as planned. Uh, they're making progress. They've had some setbacks, but that's, you know, on a project of this size, that's normal. Uh, and you work through them and you move forward. So, uh, at this point, um, you know, we, we anticipate the contractor is, is obligated to have this project done by May. We're we are obviously holding them to that. Uh, but, uh. Project of this size. Weather can turn,

things can happen. But for right now, everything is on schedule according to the contractor. And, uh, you know, we plan on, on, uh, uh, having everything back into place in the village, uh, on schedule again. The timeline is provided by the contractor and of course things could change. You know, you mentioned before, so a lot of snow this weekend possibly that could change things again. So um, but the you know, the project is progressing, uh, pretty rapidly at this point right now. So, a lot of the paving is getting done in the streets on the east end of the village. Uh, but, uh, you know, that's where we stand right now.

Trustee Levine: It's kind of scary, Joe, that when you talk to the, uh, engineers and they tell you everything is fine, they really believe it, and it's just scary. Everything is fine, you know? It's just.

Joseph DiFrancisco: Yes, I know if you if you look at it, you don't think everything's fine. It's pretty torn up the village right now, but, you know, it'll be put back together eventually.

Trustee Levine: Joe's going to stay on the call. Uh, and, uh, if we have any questions at the end that he can answer, he will do that for us. Um, let's talk about the, uh, the tennis center specifically, or the tennis courts and the sports facility, whatever we're going to call it. The area is planned on being open for the summer of 2024. And, uh, we are in discussion right now on what the surface is going to be and what the use is going to be. We are gearing or my I'm going to talk for myself because I can't talk for the board. I, I believe that the, uh. The use should be a multi-purpose use. And yes, it's always been tennis, but I believe that there are uh, there is room for other sports to be played there. I believe there's, um, you know, pickleball is a big sport right now. Um, basketball. We had basketball courts there many, many years ago. I think we should put something back there as well. And we should have times where, like, you know, it'll be tennis time, it'll be pickleball time. It'll be, you know, basketball time, whatever the case may be. But we should have something in place where everybody gets to use it. I believe it'll benefit the residents of the village. It'll increase the values of their houses. It'll give the kids activities to do at night. Um, I know I spoke with, uh, Chris during the week, and we talked about, you know, we can have tennis clinics, we can have basketball clinics, pickleball clinics. We can have cocktail parties, whatever we want to do. It's going to be a new surface. It's going to be a nice area, and we can really utilize it to its maximum. Um. I will say that, uh, the discussion whether or not the East Court and the West Court will be different is still being discussed. Um, I did, up until a little while ago, think that maybe we should put the carpeting down on the West Court and the East Court be a more solid surface. But I'm learning that there are surfaces available that, um, are better for your knees with the concrete, that they add rubber to it and makes it a little bit softer, the surfaces. Um. Like similar to what they have at the basketball court. If you look at the basketball court and took a couple engineers over there last week and we looked at it, there's about a half an inch on top of the concrete. And that's a formula that they, they put in. They layer it in. The more layers you put in, the softer the bounce and the softer the court. And um, it's something that we're looking at that I think that would be ideal right now if both courts were that surface. And then we can paint different color lines on the courts so that everybody, you know, whether you're playing pickleball or tennis or whatever the sport may be, you'll be able to, uh, have lines for it. I believe that the basketball courts, we should the basketball hoops we should mount on the fence, uh, there's ways to do that and put lines there for that. So, I mean, there's really a lot of, um, wiggle room on what we can do there. Uh, somebody even mentioned, I think, field hockey or something like that, or like hockey, but, you know, whatever we wanted to do, soccer and anything can be played on those courts once we, uh, finish them up. Um, I, I've spoken with a company out of West Hampton, and, uh, they are the company that that pretty much takes care of all the basketball and, uh, tennis courts on Fire Island from Point of Woods, Seaview, uh Dunewood and Saltaire. They maintain it and they take care of it. Um, I was talking to our village administrator a little while ago, right before this call. And the surface at the school, um, I asked them for the manufacturer of who put the surface down, and it's been there so many years that they can't even tell me who the company is.

Trustee Levine: They don't even know who put it down. And it's lasting. And I know the basketball players for their tournament. They just resurfaced it like two years ago. And I play pickleball on it. And it's good. Just so you guys know a little bit about myself. Um, I grew up in Florida and I grew up playing tennis and teaching tennis and playing on my, uh, school team. And then I switched over to racquetball. And this past summer, I started playing pickleball there. And I kind of get what you guys are looking for. And the one thing we do not want to do is make it tennis versus basketball versus pickleball. We're all in this together. We're all going to get use out of it, and we're all going to, um, play pickleball and play tennis and whatever we have to do. But we're not trying to make this one against the other. All right. Just two other issues that I wanted to bring up. Um, we have not opened up the, uh, booking of the court time yet for the, uh, tennis. And, uh, one of the reasons is, or the main reason is we don't know what we're doing there, all right? We don't know if it's going to be two tennis courts, two pickleball courts, and two tennis courts. So we really don't have the know how to build the module yet to start booking time. Um, we cannot give priority boarding, a priority boarding, priority booking to the tennis players because it just wouldn't be fair to everybody else. But I will tell you that if you booked time last year as a tennis player, you will be one of the first and only to receive the email to saying when court time will start. So, you will have a little bit of an advantage, but we can't. It's just not in the system to say you had Tuesday at 2:00, we're going to give that to you. You'll have to book it like you normally do (first come, first serve). I know that there were some people that went online, uh, just recently, uh, right after New Year's Eve to, uh, sign up for court time. And some people did, but it was a girl raising her hand. That was the 2023 application you filled out. So, um, you officially do not have court time as of yet. So, uh, there'll be a new time when we'll start that. Um, Joe, am I saying everything correctly? And the way you would say it.

Joseph DiFrancisco: Uh, everything sounds good so far. Yeah. **Trustee Levine:** All right. I don't know if Jen's on the call. Jen, are you on the call?

Trustee Moritz: Yes I'm here. **Trustee Levine:** Jen is my partner on this project. Um, **Trustee Moritz:** I'm here to listen. **Trustee Levine:** I always try to, uh, partner with somebody, and Jen and I have been working on this. I know she's been talking to a lot of people as well. Um, here's what I'm going to tell you. If you want anything specific. All right? If you want a more tennis, more pickleball, more basketball, more hockey, whatever, whatever you want. All right, you guys got to speak up. This is not the place to speak up and really plead your case. We just want information on what you think the surfaces should be, how we should do things. But at the next village meeting, you guys should plan on being there. If you want something more specific, uh, and stuff like that. We have to give the builder, the contractors, the information on what kind of surfaces we want and fences and lighting and all that stuff. That has to be done soon. So I'm hoping that at the January meeting, which is January 13th, we will be able to come to some sort of agreement amongst the board and, and make this work so that we can be playing sports at the tennis and sports facility come, uh, this summer. Um. Jen, did you want to add anything or you want me just to open it up to questions now?

Trustee Moritz: Yes. Um, we're clearly, uh, Ian speaks for himself and not for the whole board. So when we do come to decision, it will be amongst, uh, the board, and we'll take in consideration everybody and the whole community and the whole. And what their wishes are.

Trustee Levine: All right. So guys, if you if you can raise your hands, I'll call on you. Um, well, that's one way to do it. Yeah. Let's go. Let's start with, uh, Stephanie, and then we'll go to Todd. Stephanie, unmute. Hi.

Stephanie Cassell: Happy. Yep. Hi. Happy New Year, everybody. And I love the idea that there's going to be a sports facility. I think it's something that the village has been clearly lacking to have, um, a more robust presence in that, in that category. Um, of course there is a however. However, there is a basketball facility at the school. So, to perhaps take time away from other sports that have only that space for a specific sport is maybe unbalancing, um, priorities a little bit. Additionally, um, somebody had made a

great suggestion last year about pickleball in the Community House and that was also something that perhaps should be explored as an alternative. And of course, it was a hugely successful pickleball space. Um, at the basketball court, another shared facility. So, whereas tennis only has this space, there is no other space that to share. And we will and we know that that is the inevitability of the plan. But to share and not make tennis the priority is really is unfair to players who have, you know, endured those courts for so many years and fought so hard to keep them and push so hard for there to still be two courts there. There are basketball courts, there are alternatives for pickleball play and there are none for tennis. So, I would just advocate to bear that in mind as you set priorities. Um, I think there should be badminton. I think there should be volleyball. I think there should be beach volleyball now, but I agree that there should be a multi-use. But I think tennis, by virtue of there being no other alternatives, no other alternative space needs to be the primary use and space for the facility.

Trustee Levine: Thank you, Stephanie Todd. And then

Todd Saypoff: Sorry, I'm. I don't have a video today. Um, so one. I guess it's kind of a statement, but leads into what I'd be concerned about. The statement is that. When I get the drainage project was done and there was a decision made to use the tennis courts as a staging area. Basically the board, I think, told everybody in the community that it would be restored exactly the way it was and there'd be no loss of use. So that's sort of, uh, just a statement that leads into the next thing. And what I think you're proposing is fantastic. And not that, you know, my days of sports are way behind me. But, you know, my kids play, uh, tennis. And, you know, I've tried my hand at pickleball and doing something different would be fantastic. My concern would be that opening this up to a decision now is going to delay having at least the courts available for the summer. Right? Like that would be my concern. Like now all of a sudden, because we're gonna have the meeting in January, somebody's gonna bring something up and then it's going to go to we've got to make an assessment. We got to call somebody in, and then we're going to miss the deadline in order to have the thing working would be my biggest concern. So as long as we can alleviate missing that deadline, I think it's all great.

Trustee Levine: Thank you very much, Todd. Chris, you're up. And then I mean, Josh, I don't know how to respond

Chris Brahe: Stephanie, to what you were saying. Um, you know, I've obviously been involved. I've been having a lot of conversations with Ian, just giving our opinion, Patty and my opinion from a rec perspective. So just to backtrack on a couple things, keep in mind we did purchase basketball hoops. We have used those courts for the last two years for basketball, but it's at night. It's never interfering with tennis. It was from 6 to 10 p.m., and not once did we have a tennis player down there that we were that we were moving out. Uh, and that would be the continued plan. I mean, Camp OBYG may use it during the time they use the tennis courts now and add to their curriculum during the weekdays of, you know, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. but a totally understand it's not going to interfere with the prime times that that tennis court is used. And the same thing with pickleball. I mean, I see Tom Calogero on here, you know, Tom, um, and Barry Levine did an amazing job for rec, you know, spearheading all the pickleball that went on at the at the basketball courts. And that will continue. But if you go down there at 3:00 on a Saturday, you see 50 people there and most of them waiting. So, we do want to grab some hours again, not to interfere with tennis. That rec can then assign and oversee an additional pickleball court, uh, to alleviate some of that backflow that we're having down there. Again, these are all great problems to have. We've got multiple so many more people wanting to participate, and I'm sure it'll work out. And again, listen, I play tennis too. I'm in one of those groups and I want to continue doing that. And those. Yeah. So that'll continue to be the priority from my perspective. Again, not a board member just providing my opinion to Ian.

Trustee Levine: Thank you very much. Um, is it Lori or Josh? I see both of you guys on mute. Unmute. Lori.

Josh Bloom: Hold on a second. Okay? Can you hear me? Yep. Good. Um, there's no reason in the world that pickleball and tennis cannot be played on the same surface. It's done all over the place. Uh, you cannot really use the, like the rubberized, very soft surface for pickleball. The ball wouldn't bounce. On the other hand, you don't need a very soft surface to play tennis. It can be played on a multi, you know, multiple surfaces. Um, the situation at the basketball court is not sufficient to accommodate the pickleball players, at least two thirds of whom come from Seaview, because it's not Ocean Beach property. We can't keep them out. And um, right now there are twice as many pickleball players in the United States as there are, uh, tennis players. And that's going to grow, you know, enormously. So, um, I would you know, I don't think it's at all unfair to, uh, share what limited space we have with the tennis court and a pickleball court and keep them separate, and there'll be ten times as many people on the pickleball courts. Uh, people ride in on the ferry, they'll see a nice activity going on instead of a wagon park and a couple of people hitting balls in the background. Um, it's a win for everybody. Uh, I'm sorry if some tennis players are going to be inconvenienced, but, uh, unless you tell me otherwise, I'm going to assume that they will be have an opportunity to play, although maybe on a crowded court, just like the pickleball players will. So, you know, you got to share. It's a limited space in my opinion. Anyhow.

Trustee Levine: This thank you, Josh and Lori. This is a work in progress. All right. The first thing we have to do is get the courts. Then we'll figure out how to manage the courts. Um, I could tell you that, you know. The amount of people who sign up for court time. Um, is a lot less than the amount of people that play. All right. I'm what I'm trying to say is that I'm going by a calendar of who pays for court time, and then everybody I talk to is telling me that, oh, but it's a lot more crowded than that. According to the calendar. 12 1:00 from there on it, there's no one playing. But everybody's telling me now, so we really have to take a better look on that to see what's going on. I'm not trying to eliminate tennis in any way that will, you know, the mayor and the board before I was on it, made promises that there will always be two tennis courts and there will be two tennis courts. The use of those tennis courts will probably just be shared a little bit. Uh, how we're going to figure it out. I can't tell you. I don't know that we haven't gotten to that point yet. I wanted you guys to be aware that that we are thinking about it. It's the winter time. You're not there. We are talking about it. Uh, we're listening to what you have to say. All right, so right now, I saw two hands up, Gail and Sue and Maria O'Leary. Did you have your hand up? I'm sorry, that's Don Dan Potter. All right, so Gail first.

Gail Stamler: Um. Happy New Year, everybody. You all had a great holiday and New Year. And first, I'd like to say thank you to Stephanie Kassel for your very right on assessment of the village and how things could be divided fairly, or, you know, that everybody gets a participation in the court space, or your idea of the community house, which could be used for pickleball, might be something they could consider, since the community house is empty so many hours in the day, every single day, including on weekends. So that might be an alternative. Um, when you, uh, Ian, when you mentioned January 13th board meeting, could you be more specific to me? Because I don't do Facebook and unless I get an email, is this, um, although I do get the Ocean Beach newsletter. Thank you. Uh, Maria. Which is wonderful. Um, is that live or zoom? Is it in the village? Is it just, uh, private for board?

Trustee Levine: Uh, it's a public village meeting. It's our monthly meeting. Um, that's the next village board meeting that we have. Is January 13th. The Saturday I believe it's at 11:15. **Gail Stamler:** And it will be live. **Trustee Levine:** And it will be in person or on zoom. And the code, the passwords will be on the village website a couple of days before the meeting. **Gail Stamler:** Okay. And, um, uh, just another question. Where are the where is the wagon park going to be? **Trustee Levine:** Right where it is. We're not moving it. The plan is for it to be right where it is. **Gail Stamler:** So the configuration of the wagon park and the two tennis courts with pickleball or whatever else goes on there. **Trustee Levine:** I

don't think there's again, I as of right now, no one's spoken about moving the wagon park anyplace else. Uh, so I think we're going to be exactly the way it is. Thank you. **Gail Stamler:** What about part of it being in front of the, uh, Boat House where there's that big space? Uh, um, was filled in with sand. I don't know if it's filled in with wood. Now. **Trustee Levine:** Are you talking about on the bayfront? **Gail Stamler:** On the bayfront. **Trustee Levine:** A good idea? I'll bring it back to the board. Thank you. **Gail Stamler:** At least it'll take a little pressure off the wagon thing. **Trustee Levine:** Thank you. Sue, you're up.

Sue Fitzharris: Thanks. Um. Hi, everyone. So, in tandem to Stephanie and Gail, I just wanted just to vote my, my thoughts on that as well. And, you know, I've been there for a very long time. I've been playing tennis for a long time there. And I agree, just to put the vote in that there are definitely alternatives to pickleball in the community house. I think it's been working. I when I walk by and I peek in, it seems like to be very lucrative. And unfortunately you can't play tennis anywhere else but those courts. I got nervous when I heard soccer and hockey I just wanted I got nervous with that because that that'll destroy the every everything. I have a lot of friends and kids that that, um, play those sports. So, um, what about the property across the school, that huge area can that can that can those kind of sports be played there?

Trustee Levine: The ball field you're talking about, we do play, uh, softball and soccer and stuff there. Uh, and I know the camp uses it all day long. Yes. **Sue Fitzharris:** So yeah, just a food for thought that, you know, there's an alternative to the soccer and the hockey. I just wanted to mention that too. Um, also, sometimes the tennis courts can be, uh, they have like, a lot of, uh, not just all balls, but, I don't know, I've seen some, some nasty stuff on the courts. I don't know what maintenance does. Like, does the courts get cleaned? I guess that'll change now that they'll be all pristine and new.

Trustee Levine: If we do a, um, a surface like I'm proposing? Uh, it's very low maintenance. The uh. Like I said at the school, those courts are so old that they don't even have records of it anymore, of who put it down. And it was resurfaced like 2 or 3 years ago, repainted. So, I mean, it does last. Um, yes, there is an issue with the carpet and we can figure that out if we do a carpet surface. **Sue Fitzharris:** Because on the sides of the tennis, on the outer perimeter, whenever balls fall in there, I'm so scared to grab my ball, I don't know what the hell is going to come out.

Trustee Levine: That I don't know anything about. So I can look into that. Listen, I'm going to ask a favor. Um, right now I have about ten hands raised in front of me, but I believe it's people that already asked questions. So if we answered your question, if you can lower your hand so I don't call on you again. All right. Potter, where are you? I lost you. **Dan Potter:** Oh, no worries, I'm right here. **Trustee Levine:** Okay. How are you?

Dan Potter: Good. Listen, thank you so much. Um, uh, I just introduce myself, um, my mother or. Excuse me, my grandmother, Jeannette Jarnow. So, I have a long history on those courts and learned how to play on those courts. And right now, actually, I'm a high school tennis coach here in San Diego. And still come out. And I've been talking with Patty and Chris about doing some group activities, group lessons, probably only on the weekends, but starting from Memorial Day through July, just to sort of increase tennis activity. And, um, Ian, I just I want to thank you. I really like the idea of a multi-use facility, and I and I know that there has been and, and unfortunately, probably will continue to be a little bit of tension between pickleball players and tennis. And I know that pickleball is exploding right now. Um, but I'd just like to echo the idea that that pickleball tennis does have to be played here. And I think if we can have some more group activities, either through the rec program, that that that can get more use on the tennis courts. But I absolutely think that that it's a good idea and we should move forward both with basketball and pickleball on those courts when applicable, when possible. Um, I would just my only, my only reservation is I would hate to lose the courts that we do have. I mean, the courts in Ocean Bay Park,

as we all know, disappeared. Seaview is not terribly friendly and, uh, and Corneille's hit and miss if you know somebody over there. And so I want to make sure I have such a history with these courts. My family has such a history with these courts. I want to make sure that there's at least some time available for tennis. And that was part of the reason that I got into conversations with Chris and Patty about offering my services through the rec department to do both kids clinics and adult clinics on Saturdays and Sundays, which is probably all I'll have time for because I'll be working on the house otherwise. But to sort of increase the use of the of the those facilities for tennis in Ocean Beach for the Ocean Beach kids because like, it was real important to me as a kid growing up in, in Ocean Beach. And it's a lifelong sport that I've loved. And I want to make sure that I have an ability, since I have the ability in the time to sort of pass that along the next generation and to, frankly, to now that I've been a high school tennis coach here in California for the last ten years or so, help out some of the older some of some of the other adult players who may want to, you know, come out and just have sort of refresher clinics and stuff like that, which I know haven't been offered in Ocean Beach in quite a while. So, um, not sure exactly what that's going to look like if that's going to happen. But again, Ian, thank you so much for making sure that tennis is going to stay viable in Ocean Beach. And, and like I said, we can make room for pickleball. I absolutely love the fact that it's taking off, that it's getting more people out and getting more people active. Um, my only concern is just that the tennis does still remain at least a partner and a discussion on this. **Trustee Levine:** Thank you very much. I appreciate the comments. All right. Here's what we got next. We're going to go to Marco next then Jonathan, Tom and Paulette. All right. So Marco.

Kathy Roberts: Um, Ian and um, I'm not I can't raise my hand, but it's Kathy Roberts. **Trustee Levine:** Okay, Kathy, you'll go after them, give us a few minutes, okay? **Kathy Roberts:** Thank you. **Trustee Levine:** Go ahead. Marco.

Trustee Arment: Hi. Yeah, I just wanted to add, um, first of all. Hi, everyone. Happy new year. I'm on the board with Ian and Jen. And, uh, again, as they said, none of us speak for all of us. Um, but anyway, um, I. I love hearing that there are multi-purpose courts surfaces available that could work for everyone because I'll disclaim. I don't know anything about sports at all, I just I'm a computer nerd. Sports are not my thing, so I rely on the expertise of other people to tell me these kind of things. And so thank you for that. Um, and what we need to decide, like ASAP, is not necessarily the usage patterns, how time will be split, how priority will be given. What we need to decide ASAP is what surface these courts get. Uh, and I if we can do something that is multi-purpose for both courts, which it sounds like we can, that's a very promising, um, that I think gives us maximum flexibility for the future because this these surfaces ideally last possibly decades. Um, and so we don't have to decide right now whether we're doing, you know, some tennis, all tennis, some pickleball, all pickleball. Like, we don't have to necessarily finalize those decisions now. What we need to know now is what surface are we putting down. So as long as we can use a multi-purpose surface that can satisfy the players of all of these sports on both courts, ideally that gives us the best flexibility for the future on how we use these, because we don't know what we're going to need 5, 10, 20 years from now. You know, things could change. Maybe the school won't let us play on their on their court anymore. Maybe the baseball field becomes more available to us. Who knows. Like we don't we don't need to commit to that. Now. What we need to do now is pick a surface and possibly like you know, how to paint the lines on it. And hopefully ideally, and from what many of you have told me this is the case, hopefully we can get a surface that is good to play tennis on, but is also a multi-purpose surface for the other sports as well. **Trustee Levine:** Thank you Marco. I appreciate you chiming in. Um, all right, so we got Paulette. You're up. Paulette, man.

Paulette Mann: Computing. Hi, everybody. Can you hear me? (Yes). Okay. Hi. Thanks so much, Ian. This sounds amazing. Everything sounds great. I just have a question. Um, are the benches going to be the same benches, or are we getting new benches? Because I was thinking if we do different benches, we can have storage under them for the pickleball nets and equipment, anything like that.

Trustee Levine: Uh, in, in a perfect world, we would have benches with storage underneath it with shade on top. I mean, we haven't gotten to that point yet. Um, we will definitely look into that as, as, you know, let's get the surface down and then we can decide what's going to happen. Thank you Paulette. (Thanks). Appreciate it. Jonathan Jossen. You're up.

Jonathan Jossen: Hi. Thank you Ian, and wish everybody a happy New Year. And I really appreciate you doing this. Um, I just have to, um, put my two cents in about the use of the tennis courts. I actually have a picture of a calendar of when the courts were used. And I'm sorry that the money wasn't collected, but those courts are used from 8:00 in the morning till 3:00 in the afternoon, and then youth group uses them from 3 to 5, and then they're used from 5 to 6:30 almost every day of the week. Okay. And I have a picture of a calendar, multiple calendars showing people signing up for those courts. So we really need to understand that those courts are used by tennis players, by four people at a time. So, it's really a misnomer. And what you said was not right okay. They're always used people get there at 8:00. I play from 9 to 10, try to play from 8 to 9, but it's taken. And if I don't sign up on Friday for the following Monday, the Monday hour is booked from 8:00 in the morning till 3:00, and then maybe I'll be able to get on at 5:00. So, we need to understand that there are a lot more tennis players than let on or who are paying, because the tennis players that do play have been keeping those courts, have been throwing the garbage out, have been sweeping the courts because nobody else does it. Okay. So, we really need to understand that. And then the other thing that was very disheartening is the players like me that have been playing for 30 years, you're basically telling me I might not get my tennis time anymore. Now I understand there's pickleball my wife made, Stephanie made a very good point that it can be played inside. We can't play inside. So, if it's raining, the pickleball players can have 2 or 3 courts in in the group house where the movies should be playing. So, you're all of a sudden taking away our tennis courts. Yes, pickleball is being played, but once again, it can be played everywhere. Okay, but tennis cannot be played everywhere. Tennis can only be played on those courts, and it is being played on those courts. Now that we don't have any courts in Ocean Bay Park, there all coming here, and if Seaview is playing on the pickleball courts and Ocean Beach players can't play, maybe something has to be done there. But you can't all of a sudden say to me, I'm not going to have my tennis time. That was really unfair, Ian. And I wasn't going to speak until you said that. But I appreciate everything that you're doing. But do understand those courts are being used. But maybe they're not being paid for. Okay, but they're being used. **Trustee Levine:** Thank you. Jonathan. Uh, Kathy Roberts, did we call on? Did you?

Kathy Roberts: Hi. Um. I was so excited to hear the news about the multi-use courts. Like, uh, many of us, uh, pickleball players. And I do love the idea of the gentleman from San Diego who was talking about doing clinics for tennis. Because I would love to, you know, get adult, uh, clinic tennis lessons also. Um, but my concern too, is currently the tennis players are paying. For their court time. And I don't. No one ever wants to hear this. And residents pay one fee and non-residents pay another fee. Did you think about that for the usage for the other sports? **Trustee Levine:** Um, yeah, that this conversation is going on right now regarding that. And, um, I believe that if four people get together every Tuesday and want to play for an hour, uh, they should be charged, just like the tennis people are. But that's my opinion. And, uh, that's all I'll say on that subject. We are talking about it. Thank you Kathy. **Kathy Roberts:** I know I heard about free time. You know, uh, maybe certain times would be free. Other times you'd have to pay. But I would hate to lose. Also, the school pickleball, um, courts that we use, you know, we share with the school and the basketball players and the kids, the playground that want to use the playground. So, we all have been sharing very nicely.

Trustee Levine: Thank you very much, I appreciate it. Uh, Tom. You're up. Okay. I'm from Florida.

Tom Calogero: Hello. **Trustee Levine:** Hi, Tom. **Tom Calogero:** Thanks for letting us talk again, Billy. I've heard a lot of good stuff. That multipurpose. The sharing, the partnership. Um, I understand the. Long Terme tennis players and their concerns. Um, I see they. They think that maybe we could do well in the community house? I'm not sure about that. That flooring is not like a gym flooring. I'm not sure if that

would be something that would be viable. Again, someone could look into that. We were more than happy to go in there if it's viable. Um, in terms of trying to coexist on the sports facility, we support that. And, uh, I can envision in terms of a full court basketball, two tennis courts and the pickleball courts on that and then spreading the time out in terms of who's going to be using it based on paying or whatever the free time is. I understand it looks like it's pretty booked up already. How can we coexist? I hope the board can figure out the best way to do that, because I don't know if the tennis people had this reserved for life when we all started this. Um, I see they should have consideration, uh, because they've had it so long. But pickleball is becoming something that should be able to get into the groove with the tennis community. And it coexists. And we, uh, what we do with Patty and, uh, Chris and the, uh, rec kind of using the school. We're stepchildren over there. We have to chalk our own lines, take care of everything. I heard the lady was talking about what they have to do in the tennis courts. We do the same thing on that sweeping, blowing, whatever. So, there's work involved. People are committed. People want to play these sports. I'm just trying to get into a co-existence like we do in the school. We coexist with the basketball players there and if we could all coexist, I would be a very happy man. Thank you.

(unknown): And, um, I just want to. **Trustee Levine:** Why can't we all just get along. **(unknown):** Right. That's all. Um, I just want to add in to this. I'm sitting next to a guy that gets there an hour early before pickleball. Every day has to take chalk to put the lines in and all that. And then 50 people show up and, you know, we don't get to play that often, and we have to wait sometimes an hour to play. Um, the community house, that is a liability, I personally think, and if you guys have been to the basketball courts, everyone's bumping each other. Balls are going all over the place. Um, you guys are building for the future. I think it should be a hard surface. The multi courts and all that. Um, I think it would be great. You're building for the future. Let's make it the future. Um, where everyone can coexist on it.

Trustee Levine: Thank you. **Tom Calogero:** Thank you Ian. **Trustee Levine:** Uh, we're going to go to Billy in a second, but there's a phone number that ends in 3799 with your hand up. You'll go after Billy. Billy. Billy Bloom. Unmute.

Billy Bloom: There we go. Um, I just want to say that I think the idea of pickleball in the community house is really a pipe dream. It's absurd. That floor in there is not suitable for pickleball. People be slipping and injuring themselves all over the place. Um, during the day, it would get brutally hot in there. Assuming you could play in there, would destroy the floor of the community house unless you're planning to resurface it. The lighting in there is terrible, and the fact that somebody suggested putting 2 or 3 courts in there. I don't know what community house you're thinking about, but that's simply not plausible. I think we should just get that idea out of our heads right now. It just seems so ridiculous to me, that's all.

Trustee Levine: Thank you. Billy. Um, does the person with the phone number 3799, they unmuted? So do you want to talk? Okay. Thank you anyway. And, uh, just two more hands. Jonathan and Stephanie. Did you guys want to say something else? Stephanie Cassell, Jonathan Johnson. You guys still have your hands up? Nope. **Jonathan Jossen:** Yeah, you had me already. Okay, I answered, that's all. **Trustee Levine:** All right. Um, just.

Chris Fitzharris: Ian real quick, when is the email going to come out announcing when the applications will be available about what's the estimated time? **Trustee Levine:** Um, uh, there is no estimated time. It's as soon as soon as we know what we're going to be doing with the courts. Uh, that will go out. You will get an email. Um, as a person who signed up for court time in the past, you're the list you guys are. There's only like 15 people on the list. Those 15 people will get emails saying that. Get ready. All right. Um, Joe DeFrancisco, do you have any last words? Where are you? I see you. Joe, are you still there?

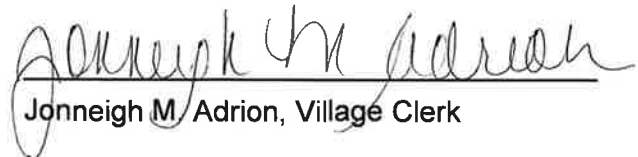
Joseph DiFrancisco: Why is my phone working? Yeah. I'm here. **Trustee Levine:** Okay. Did you want to add anything else? **Joseph DiFrancisco:** Uh, no. I mean, just, uh. Um. You know, the project, the sewer project is going to kind of dictate when we're prepared to move forward with this. Uh, you know, it's part of their it's part of the contract for them to, uh, reestablish the tennis courts as they were in the past. Um, so contractually, once the project is nearing the end, then we'll have more of a better idea of when, uh, we can start with signups and when the courts will become available.

Trustee Levine: Thank you. Jen, did you want to add anything or are you happy with what you heard? Can generate estimates. **Trustee Moritz:** Hey, Ian. Thank you. Uh, thank you, everyone, for participating in this meeting. We will definitely bring all your requests and concerns to the board, to resolve this and find a surface that's, you know, doable for the whole community. So, we can all work together on this. And I hope everyone has a wonderful New Year. And we hope this project hurries to so that we can have this multipurpose and tennis court area. **Trustee Levine:** Thank you, Jen, and thanks for partnering with me on this Marco. Last words. Anything?

Marco Arment: No, I'm again, I'm really happy that there seems to be consensus that multipurpose court services can work for tennis as well, because again, I'm all about the idea of giving us as many options as possible in the future. However, we choose to balance it because we have so many people who want to use these courts. We desperately need more recreation opportunities in the village, especially, you know, from sports activities we can do for adults, kids, teenagers, like there's so many opportunities here. So, the more doors we can leave open with our choices now, the better. Um, so I'm very glad to hear that. As I said, as I said and, uh, yeah, looking forward to, you know, having more options. And I think also, you know, one thing to think about, um, for the tennis players too, is if these courts become multi-purpose courts, you know, the one thing I've heard in the past is that. The that the maintenance of the tennis courts was difficult to fund or it's hard to, you know, justify the budget for it because it was not used by that many people. I think if we make these multi-purpose courts the way we are seemingly planning, more people will be getting value out of them, which should make it easier to justify funding proper maintenance over time. So that I think I think even for the tennis players, having the courts be more multi-purpose should result in them being nicer over time as well. So, it's a good factor to consider. And again, just it seems like making these multi-purpose is all wins all around. Um, and how we choose to allocate that time can always be tweaked and changed over time. We don't need to decide that now.

Trustee Levine: Thank you. Marco I don't know if Dawn made the call. Dawn, are you on the call? Trustee Hargraves? Dawn, are you on? All right, listen, everybody, I really appreciate the, uh, input from everybody. Um, it was a lot more civilized than I thought it was going to be, so thank you very much. It was really great. Um, you can reach out to any of the trustees. Our emails are on the village website (villageofoceanbeach.org). If you have any concerns, questions or would like to reach out to anybody, please, uh, drop us an email. Um, the meeting for the village. The next meeting is on the 13th. Uh, if you have any questions, please come and bring your questions. And, uh, with that, I'm going to wish you all a Happy Holidays. Uh, Joe DeFrancisco, our village administrator. Thanks for taking the time to be on the call with us. We appreciate it. And everybody, have a great night. Thank you.

6:46PM – Meeting ended


Jonneigh M. Adrion, Village Clerk