



MINUTES
Adhoc Racket Sport Committee

February 19, 2025
10:00am
Municipal Operations Centre, Boardroom

Present: Mayor Strathdee
Councillor Luna
Councillor Pridham
Merlin Leis – Pickleball
Mike Ferguson – Pickleball
Don Van Galen – Tennis
Roger Batch - Tennis

Staff Present: **In-Person**
Stephanie Ische, Director of Community Services / Staff Liaison
Brent Kittmer, Chief Administrative Officer
Jenna McCartney, Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jenna McCartney stated that correspondence was provided in advance of the meeting for the committee to consider when making a recommendation to Council.

Resolution

Moved By Councillor Luna

Seconded By Don Van Galen

THAT the February 19, 2025 Adhoc Racket Sport committee agenda be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

4. SPECIAL MATTERS OF COMMITTEE

4.1 DCS 15-2025 Racket Sports Follow Up

Stephanie Ische presented DCS 15-2025 report and responded to questions from the committee.

The following feedback was provided:

- indoor tennis with a ceiling limit of 14' would be difficult to play within
- if third-party approval limits the option of expanding the current facility to the west (closer to the river), consider expanding to the north or south
- the vision of expansion at the current site includes the creation of four dedicated pickleball courts
- clarification was provided regarding the number of permanent shared and exclusive courts recommended in the Recreation, Culture and Leisure Master Plan
- tennis courts could be clay based rather than concrete or asphalt
- having lines painted specific to the purpose of the sport, may be preferred

The Committee took a brief break at 10:54 am.

Chair Strathdee called the meeting back to order at 11:02 am.

Feedback cont'd:

- looking for commitment that this committee's efforts will continue towards long term planning, tennis will commit to supporting short-term option 3 from staff report.
- pickleball would like confirmation that users can play on dedicated courts on the other sport's dedicated night
- pickleball does not support option 3, supports short-term option 1 in the staff report

Resolution

Moved By Don Van Galen

Seconded By Roger Batch

THAT the adhoc Committee recommends to Council:

THAT Council proceed with option 33 from the Recreation, Culture and Leisure Master Plan following consultation with the adhoc committee regarding the colours and the alignment of lines utilized on the courts; and

THAT Council establish an advisory committee to Council for the purpose of reviewing alternatives at the Water Street S location (or another location) for long-term, dedicated solutions to the current demand for racket sports in St. Marys with consideration of appointing the existing members of the adhoc Committee for Racket Sports.

CARRIED

Clarification was sought and confirmed by both sport representatives:

- tennis is not interested in advancing indoor playing opportunities in the community center at the Pyramid Recreation Centre with the creation of multi-purpose lines although indoor lessons may be practical
- pickleball is interested in advancing indoor playing opportunities in the community center at the Pyramid Recreation Centre with the creation of multi-purpose lines
- pickleball and tennis are in support of one bench per court

5. NEXT MEETING

Not required

6. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution

Moved By Councillor Luna

Seconded By Merlin Leis

THAT this Adhoc Racket Sport committee adjourn at 11:40 am.

CARRIED

Al Strathdee, Chair

Jenna McCartney, Clerk