

Dave Blanchard report to the 18 April 2022 tennis club board on activities of the Committee to Preserve the Buckeye Tennis Courts.

At the 31 March 2022 GRF Board meeting several tennis supporters made our usual pointed and questioning observations and pleas to urge the Board to vote against the planning committee request to do a sound study at the Buckeye tennis courts to see if it they would be acceptable for pickleball playing. I had the meeting moderator, Deborah Rose, send my complaint to the members of the GRF Board. My complaint and that of Ken Anderson raised the possibility of legal action and the issue that members of the board who key figures in the development of the takeover plan did not have to recuse themselves from the decision. The day after the board meeting Dwight Walker sent me an email asking if we could meet. I agreed and we met on 5 April.

A recap of the meeting I had with Dwight Walker GRF Board President. I went over all of the issues that we have presented many times: that we are afraid our programs will be cut back too drastically, that noise from the PB balls and paddles and the noise from PB players playing and waiting to play will ruin tennis games, that the beauty of the Buckeye Grove tennis setting will be ruined by PB crowds. That traffic and parking will be ugly. I repeated that we think it is unfair to allow one club to take facilities away from another fully functioning group. I said it appears that the PB club has methodically put its promoters on the Planning Commission and Board to swing the vote.

Dwight responded that GRF is listening to us, but people aren't convinced by our arguments. He said they aren't trying to stack the boards, after all the Board has nine members. He says there are so many projects looking for funding that the PB decision might come down to money if the price tag gets too high. He said all of the options we talk about have been studied. He said with respect to contractual or legal rights of homeowners expectation: there are none.

I responded that it appears that some members are biased and appearances are important. I said that we have had no visibility into the studies that have been done of several key sites: examples are Carl Brown's proposal for Creekside and the Golf course sites. He said we could have gone to all of the Planning Committee meetings where studies were presented.

So what do we do next? The Buckeye Sound study that the Board approved is set for 18 and 19 April, now moved to 28 April. Our club president Larry is asking Jeff for details of the study. He is also trying to make sure our courts and the parking lot and street are full of cars. If Buckeye fails the sound study the PB team will probably claim that it needs to be done again and we can call foul. If it passes then we must review the results and, if possible, invalidate them.

Next we need to address the issue that the board members have heard us but aren't convinced that Rossmoor tennis would really be ruined. We need everyone to come up with ideas on this. Carol's idea of meeting with Okeefe and Matheson is excellent. How would we present our case that is different from what we have done before. Create a detailed white paper combining all of our issues? Combine our ideas into a comprehensive, compelling story?

We will see if we can get copies of the studies that have been completed on selected sites so that we can see why they failed.