

Rochester, Jacqueline

From: Pierce, Steve
Sent: Monday, September 12, 2022 10:37 AM
To: minutesandagendas
Subject: Fwd: [Wilton CT] Town Dedicated lighted Pickleball courts (Sent by Jay Richman, 4richman@optonline.net)

Please add the email below to the Parks and Recreation agenda for this Wednesday, September 14, 2022

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Contact form at Wilton CT <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Date: September 10, 2022 at 12:11:13 PM EDT
To: "Pierce, Steve" <Steve.Pierce@wiltonct.org>
Subject: [Wilton CT] Town Dedicated lighted Pickleball courts (Sent by Jay Richman, 4richman@optonline.net)
Reply-To: 4richman@optonline.net

Hello spierce,

Jay Richman (4richman@optonline.net) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.wiltonct.org/user/101/contact>) at Wilton CT.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.wiltonct.org/user/101/edit>.

Message:

Hi Steve, I would like you to present to the board Wilton's need to build dedicated, lighted Pickleball courts. As you may have read, Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America. Some of the reasons include the easy learning curve to play, low equipment costs, and rules that encourage player engagement. This is a sport that can be enjoyed by all ages and the surrounding towns are well aware of this. Westport, Norwalk, New Canaan, Ridgefield and Darien have all built dedicated Pickleball courts for their residents. Lighted courts would also allow residents who work during the day to still enjoy playing in the evening, just like the High School tennis courts. While Wilton recently adding Pickleball lines to 4 MiddleBrook tennis courts was a noble effort, many times these courts are taken by tennis players which reduces availability to Pickleball players. Also, tennis court nets are 2 inches higher than pickleball courts so games on these courts can negatively effect one's game. Imagine shooting hoops at a basket 10 1/2 feet high instead of the normal 10 foot high. It would throw off anyone's game. Lastly, according to the most recent census data, the median age for a Wilton resident is 42.9 years. I am not privy to how much money is spent on athletic pursuits for residents aged below 42.9, but I would find it hard to believe that there is any near parity spending for us 42.9+ residents. I hope you can present the need for Pickleball courts, to the powers to be, on behalf of us players and future players. Thanks-Jay Richman