

GOLF ADVISORY BOARD
Monday, January 23, 2012
Minutes

Members Present: Cam Cherry, Lonnie Yingst

Members Absent: Steve Vielleux, Kevin O'Connell, David Nelson

Others Present: Jerry Kuntz and Duane Moe

Staff Present: Marty Basta, Patty Rearden, Wade Altschwager, Keith Hollenback, Cindy Stein

Meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m. There was no quorum for the meeting. December minutes were not approved.

Director's Report

Corporate Golf Pass Request

- Connie to check on other cities on how they handle corporate passes.
- Keith suggested a prorated green fees pass (discounted); the company would be billed monthly.

Manager's Report

Connie Cramer-Caouette absent

Superintendent Report

Eagle Falls, Keith Hollenback

- No cross country skiing due to freezing temperature and then the snow was gone.
- Winter golf was busy the beginning of January. Golfers think they can golf until 4:00 and then get off the course, but the 4:00 time is when the gate is locked, need to re-look at the wording so they understand better.

Anaconda Hills, Wade Altschwager

- Received lots of complaints on why we were not open for winter golf on nice days.
- Watering and working on accessories, and servicing equipment.

Old Business

Downpour Festival Parking

Centene stadium has requested the use of parking along the driving range during large event such as the Downpour Festival. They will pay \$100/day for use of the parking area; staff has suggested that the additional parking be for staff only and not public parking.

New Business

Fire suppression services, Anaconda Hills Golf Course

Great Falls Fire Department has informed staff that they will no longer be responding to fire calls from Anaconda Hills due to it being located in Black Eagle. This also included medical emergencies. Staff is concerned about the response time from rural fire departments. Great Falls Fire Department decision to not respond to the golf course will be discussed with other City staff. We are not paying assessments for fire services through the City; this could change once if we go with the rural fire services. The decision to not respond to facilities outside of the City affects other park areas maintained by our department.

Golf Concessions Proposal

One proposal was received after several inquiries on the RFP for Golf Concessions. K&M Inc. who currently runs the concessions at the golf courses has been awarded the contract. A committee ranked their proposal and they received 477 out of 500 possible points.

There was no quorum so the Board was unable to make a recommendation to City Commission.

Golf Tournament Schedule

Board received copies of the tournament applications that are scheduled to go out this week.

- Staff is requesting board options on July/August available week-ends
 - Should we block off 2 week-ends in July and 2 week-ends in August to keep both courses open to the public.
 - It was decreased to 1 week-end in July and 1 week-end in August; If we block off the 1 week-end in August it would leave 1 week-end for a tournament draw
 - Staff recommends that we do not block the 1 week-end in August off and allow for more tournament draws.
- The February 27th board meeting will start at 3:00pm; tournaments will be drawn at that meeting. Keith and Wade will not be at the February meeting.

Coaches Clinic

Jerry Kuntz, representing Montana Coaches Association was present to discuss their tournament and the shot gun start.

- 1,300 coaches here for the Coach's Clinic each year. Tournament is an important part of the clinic;
- Numbers have dropped the last few years; not able to get 100 people for shotgun start;
- 2011 lost \$500 on tournament with paying the extra green fees;
- Jerry has discussed with Connie; tournament fees cover just the green fees and the \$5 player fee;
- Requesting the 100 minimum players be lowered for their tournament;
- Marty split the loss with them in 2011 – they paid \$250 in extra green fees;
- Tournament is a Thursday night and they rent over 40 carts
- They are not in the same category as the week-end tournaments where there is a large revenue loss to the course if the numbers are not 100;
- They don't see their numbers increasing.

Discussion continued:

- Could have 72 players - that would be a 4-some on each hole
- Marty felt it was reasonable to split the loss in 2011; or risk losing the tournament prior to realizing that there were rules already in place to host a shot gun tournament.
- There have been other tournaments that have had to pay the extra green fees when numbers are less than 100.
- They have an average of 80 players; even if they play 9 holes it takes 18 to run the shotgun. 72 players required for 9 hole shot gun tournaments

Rules and Information on shotgun tournament

- In order to run a shotgun tournament at 5:45-6:00, the course would have to be closed by 1:00
- Average 80+ players; play nine holes
- 72 players is the maximum you can do a 9 hole shotgun

- 100 players are needed for an 18 hole shotgun

Options

- If they have their numbers in 3-4 days in advance (as required for all tournaments), we would be able to schedule a reverse shotgun;
- Could negotiate a flat rental, Coaches Clinic would get use of the entire course, driving range and 35 golf carts
 - Proposed \$1,800 or \$2,000 rental fee +\$5 per player fee
 - Could recoup \$560 in cart rental (Coaches Clinic)
 - Average course revenue on Thursday's beginning at 1:00pm is \$1,985
 - 85 players:
 - Regular rate \$2,360 (does not include driving range)
 - \$1,800 rental \$2,225 includes \$5 player fee (would recoup \$560 for golf cart rental)
 - \$2,000 rental \$2,425 includes \$5 player fee (would recoup \$560 for golf cart rental)
 - 100 players:
 - Regular rate \$2,560 (does not include driving range revenue)
 - \$1,800 rental \$2,300 (would recoup \$560 for golf cart rental)
 - \$2,000 rental \$2,500 (would recoup \$560 for golf cart rental)

Board suggested that we re-look at our current rules for tournament play and take into consideration week-end vs. week-day tournaments.

Miscellaneous Reports & Announcements:

None

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 27th at 3:00 p.m. – award tournaments.