

**GOLF ADVISORY BOARD**  
**DECEMBER 19, 2011**  
**Minutes**

Members present: David Hall, Lonnie Yingst, Kevin O'Connell, Steve Vielleux

Members absent: Cam Cherry

Staff present: Marty Basta, Connie Cramer-Caouette, Keith Hollenback, Patty Rearden, Wade Altschwager, Cindy Stein

Meeting called to order at 3:30pm.

**Board motioned to approve the minutes from September, motion seconded and carried.**

**Board motioned to approve the minutes from November, motion seconded and carried.**

Steven inquired on the minutes from September where discussion was on handicap carts and having written rules for use on the golf courses. There needs to some guidelines to inform those who are handicap where they are allowed to drive and where they should be allowed to park.

It was suggested that handicap guidelines be put on a future agenda for discussion and that staff research other courses on how they handle this.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The City's Annual Audit Report shows the golf courses not being able to meet the bond covenants. The golf course is at 118% and needs to be at 140% of principal and interest to meet bond covenants. Board received a copy of the report and a 10 year trend; in 2010 the golf course did meet their bond covenants at 157%.

Marty met with Vinny Pupura, President of Voyagers Baseball Club, to discuss the stadium rental for the DownPour concert to be held August 10-11. The available parking for this event is a challenge and they are requesting the use of the south end of the driving range for additional parking (support staff only) on Friday and Saturday starting at 3:00pm. Connie estimated the revenue loss would be approximately \$91/day; the baseball club would make up that revenue loss. If they don't find additional parking they may lose the event.

Staff would mark off the areas for parking and the Baseball club would have to police it during the concert.

**Board motioned to approve the use of the driving range, south end, for additional parking for staff only and recover the loss of revenue. Baseball club will be responsible for any damage to the turf or other amenities on the golf course. Motion seconded and carried.**

## MANAGER'S REPORT

Connie Cramer-Caouette

- \$129 was raised for the Folds of Honor event, it was a \$1 donation from golfers.
- One of our local junior golfers received through the Girls Golf Program free golf clubs from MV Park, golf professional.
- Replaced the roof and front doors at Anaconda Hills; there was \$8000 set aside for cart barn improvements; we needed to use that funding for the building instead.
- Connie attended two seminars on recruitment and discharge.
- Will be submitting a grant application for CDBG funding for a single rider disabled golf cart. The two recently remodeled restrooms at the golf course were paid for by CDBG funds. Also working with Eagle Mount on getting funding from USGA.
- Reapplying for the LPGA girls golf grant; have received \$17,000-\$18,000 in grants over the last few years.
- Upgrade to POS system scheduled for February, this should improve our golf trac web site; and make it more user friendly.

## GREENSKEEPERS

Keith Hollenback, Eagle Falls Greenskeeper

- Basic winter maintenance.
- Cart barn access will be the last Friday of each month for 4 hours.

Wade Altschwager, Anaconda Hills Greenskeeper

- Poles up in the back of the driving range.
- Winter golf play has been here and there, play will move to Eagle Falls in January.

## NEW BUSINESS

*Late season/Winter Golf, Kevin O'Connell*

- Goggled winter golf in northern region, other golf courses that open when they can and close like us. Country Club opens when they can.
- Considerable amount of revenue that we leave on plate by closing so early.
- Opening the golf courses is more as a thank you to the golfers and is based on costs vs. what we collect if we stayed open after October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Kevin has talked to golfers and they informed him they would pay outside the annual pass to golf after October 31<sup>st</sup>. There have been lots of years we could have made money by keeping the courses open later.
- There is a real potential for revenue and it needs to be looked at.

Connie: We did keep the courses open later one year on temporary greens and changed \$2 (?), it was hard to get payment from season pass holders. Kevin feels that we need to explore it again, in his research each area was different on fees, ideas, greens, damage and what could happen. Of the 60-100 people he talked to they were all willing to pay a fee.

Discussion continued on the costs for staffing and all the other daily costs versus revenue. It was noted that we cannot add more expenses to the golf budgets without the revenue to cover; we will need maintenance staff, club house staff and concessions. We don't have funding to help the greens out in the spring like other golf courses if we allow play in the winter.

More research to be done and brought back to the Board, it was suggested allowing golf on Saturday and Sunday.

#### *Golf Course Concessions*

Request for proposals for golf course concessions will go out in January so the lease is in place by March. Current lease with K&M expires in December; K&M have held the lease since 1997 and they are interested in bidding again. Bid requirements are \$41,100 or 12% of gross sales and increases \$500 each year. The City has considered operating the concessions but we are faced with most of the equipment being owned by K&M. Board recommends having a 3<sup>rd</sup> party run the concessions is the best way to go.

### **MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Staff**

- None

#### **Board**

- Steve inquired about a group golf tournament in August and what can be done to get the date ahead of time.
- Steve will be gone until May meeting.
- Kevin received an email from Jerry Kuntz, Coaches Clinic who has a shot gun tournament each year, in 2010 they only had 70-80 golfers and rules are a minimum of 100 golfers for a shotgun start, if they do not have 100 players they are required to pay the additional green fees.
  - Is there a way we can relax on the 100 min. for shot gun starts? Their other option is to not have the tournament. This needs to be looked at from a common sense and not the rule book side again.
    - We have approved tournaments on both courses on the same day as an exception to the rule in certain instances.
    - Lonnie: do we change the rules to allow exceptions
    - Kevin if we don't change we would have to lose the tournament
    - Connie - every other tournament has paid the additional fees when they do not meet the 100 players.
    - Kevin asked if the rules as set by the board don't allow any give.
    - Connie suggested a reverse shotgun may be considered for the tournament; or a 9 hole; they do not provide us the names as required for tournaments two days in advance and we hold the tee times for them and when they come in with 20+ less than they requested, that is lost revenue for tee times.
    - Kevin: following rules makes it easier for everyone but if we don't have the ability to use common sense to make things work. If it is a not busy day and

they request a shotgun with less than 100 (like Thursday evening); why not allow.

- Connie: If we change the requirements for them we need to do for all which would include changing the rules completely.
  - Lonnie: need to note that there may or may not be exceptions and if there are exceptions there needs to be a process for that exception, if not there will be a lot of hard feelings from others. Do we make enough money on Thursday night to make the exception
  - Connie: administratively more doable, they need to talk to the board well in advance and take their sign-ups – it is silly to hold the entire course when they don't show up.
  - Lonnie: we should find a way to make it work
- Board requested revenue costs for Thursday play to be brought back at January's board meeting.
  - Kevin to contact Jerry Kuntz to attend the next board meeting.
  - Connie to look at course rental for one lump fee which includes driving range, cart rental and green fees.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 5:01 pm.