

**GOLF ADVISORY BOARD
MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2011
MINUTES**

Members present: Steve Vielleux, Lonnie Yingst, David Nelson

Members absent: Cam Cherry, Kevin O'Connell

Staff present: Marty Basta, Connie Cramer-Caouette, Wade Altschwager, Keith Hollenback

Others present: Kristine Hildebrandt

Meeting called to order at 3:30pm.

Correction to minutes from May Golf Advisory Board meeting as follows: Thom Babinecz listed as present at meeting, Tom's term has expired and he was not present at meeting. Time of meeting was listed as 3:00pm and meeting started at 3:30pm. With those corrections minutes approved as written.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Slow start at the golf courses due to wet weather.
- Budgets will be presented to City Commission Wednesday.
- Golf course fund is performing reasonable well.
- No talk of closing any courses.

MANAGERS REPORT

Connie Cramer-Caouette

- Jr. Tee Program started today
- Connie to show her power point presentation on the youth golf lessons at a future meeting
- Golf courses are now on twitter @golfgreatfalls; any message sent on twitter will be announcements on tournaments, leagues and course openings/closing due to weather
- The Sting Sports Bar will advertise on the Eagle Falls scorecards and pay for the printing of the scorecards.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Keith Hollenback

- Mowing, irrigation, fertilizing
- Some work in bunkers, edging and weed spraying will continue.

Wade Altschwager

- Mowing, irrigation, fertilizing
- Getting caught up
- Spraying program started

OLD BUSINESS

Cross Country Skiing Proposal

Kristine Hildebrandt provided the following information for use of Eagle Falls Golf course for cross country skiing during winter months when snow allows.

- Grooming and skiing daylight hours vs night time hours would limit the users; grooming is usually done at night when it is cool. 6' wide area for grooming
- Concerns with enforcement and liability
- If they use the golf course there may not be grooming; just open trails; but still issue of liability on access.
- Considering use during hours of golf course staffing in the winter.

- Staff would have to flag the area where skiers can go.
- There is a concern on people not getting out before gates are locked.
- They are also considering open parks instead of the golf course. It was suggested Garybill or Verde parks

Lonnie Yingst suggested they meet with the park board and report back to the golf board for further discussion if they decide to include the golf courses.

Season Passes

-Lonnie reviewed finances and how the passes would impact if we sold 3 month passes, etc. There have not been a lot of requests; it was golf staff that brought up the pro-rated passes. Board will not make any changes to any season passes.

NEW BUSINESS

Wet weather golf cart use

Steve Vielleux with the senior league had concerns with no cart usage during their league night; they had 25 out of 40 league members play when the course was closed to carts due to wet conditions. Steve did not agree with the policy on that day and would like the policy to be reviewed and given guidelines to when they cannot use carts.

Staff relies on the maintenance to determine the rules for the day of play; they are the experts and they know when the course is unplayable and no carts should be used. There are no guidelines' that can be applied to the course usage. Keith drives carts through areas and if they are leaving a mud trail that is when he shuts them down.

Need to eliminate the saturation problems at #11 and #15, #7.

- #11 and #15 should have a full length cart path
- drainage would have to be put in with a huge price tag
- #12, #15, #9, #11, #6 are all problems when there is a lot of rain.

Staff to pursue the costs and feasibility of extending the cart paths on #11 and #15.

Stadium Billboard

Centene Stadium would like to put advertising on the back of their current signs (#9 area); with the tree growth, the board will be covered from the view of the golf course. Marty to get additional information on the sign and bring back to next board meeting.

Marshalling

Kevin O'Connell was not present to discuss Marshalling at the golf course; will bring course marshalling back to the next board meeting when Kevin can be present.

Steve Vielleux will be absent for July meeting.

With no further discussion, meeting adjourned at 4:32pm.