

Golf Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, September 23, 2013
Minutes

Members Present: Lonnie Yingst, Roy Aafedt, Steve Vielleux

Members Absent: Cam Cherry, David Nelson

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

Meeting called to order at 3:30pm

With no corrections or additions to the July minutes, board motioned to accept as written. Motion second and carried.

Steve Vielleux made a note from July minutes on the statement that Great Falls is the only Air Force Base without a golf course; there are other bases that do not have golf courses.

Director's Report

- Marty will be attending a retreat on Thursday with City Manager, Commissions and all department heads. Discussion will be challenges and fees.
- Monday October 7th will meet with the City Manager to discuss any fee changes for Park and Recreation divisions.
- Any fee changes will go the City Commission on November 19th.
 - If we are going to increase golf fees it will be a tight schedule. Marty to talk with City Manager and bring back to the October meeting. The City is looking at all fees not just Park and Recreation fees.
- It was requested that trail fees for Anaconda Hills should be reduced since they are only using one course. It is not recommended to make this change, there is still wear and tear on the course and the number of times they golf does not change by being at one course.

Board recommended that no changes be made to the trail fees until discussion on all fees with the City Manager is complete - motion second and carried.

Manager's Report

- Connie Cramer invited Zach with the National Weather Service to discuss some guidelines for lightening storms.
- Anaconda Hills has received vandalism on the bell, they broke the original one and it was replaced (thanks to a golfer) and they broke that one. The only plan is to put the old one back up that was broken but still usable.
- We are having a problem with someone stealing the sign on #17
 - Marty is working with Doug Wicks for a solar powered camera that can read a license plate 150' away and is portable.
- Held a short class at Meadowlark School on "Introduction to Golf".
- Connie will be attending the Marilyn Smith fundraising golf tournament in Phoenix. Connie to lobby hard to get a tour player to Montana.
- There are now four signs on #17 facing the golf course on the Centene outfield fence.

- We need an Eagle Falls sign at the entrance where the stadium sign is. Allstate signs did the original sign; Marty will talk to Centene on adding Eagle Falls to the sign.
- A telephone pole was leaning close to the driving range, contacted the power company and they were there within a half hour fixing it.
- Driving range problem with losing our range balls.

Superintendent Report

Keith Hollenback, Eagle Falls Superintendent

- Aerated the course, went much better than expected
 - Steve noted that it was a quicker recovery time from aerating this year
- Working on getting all the fairways aerated now
- Back spraying weeds
- Been trying to keep up with the grass, growing season will slow down now
- New tree by pond on #18 has been vandalized

Wade Altschwager, Anaconda Hills Superintendent

- Aerated and it went terrible this year
- Sand that was delivered was full of rocks and debris

Board asked if any project has been done with the “Keith & Wade Revenge” tournament. Wade has not designated a project yet.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss

New Business

Golf Board Appointment Recommendation

We received two applicants, Kelly Gilligan and Mark Johnson for the one golf board opening.

- The opening is for an “at large” golfer
 - Kelly is a member of the Men’s Association and the Men’s Golf League
 - Mark is a member of the Men’s Golf League
- Marty talked to the City Attorney about the applications being qualified for the “at large” opening.
 - Applicant would not be disqualified to apply for the “at large” opening,
 - Applicant would need to represent the golfers and not the association or league if appointed.
- Roy Aafedt was appointed to represent the Men’s Golf Association and plays on the Senior League
- Steve Vielleux whose position is being replaced is a member of the Senior League.
- Discussion continued on eligibility of the two applicants.

Board motioned to move Mark Johnson's application forward, motion second and approved.

Steve motioned that to eliminate confusion in the future that more clearly defined guidelines are set and verified before advisory board members are advertised and appointed. No second, motion failed.

Lightening Safety

Zach Uttech with the National Weather Service provided a power point presentation on safety at golf courses during a thunderstorm/lightening storm.

- Use the 30/30 rule, if you see lighting hear thunder within 30 seconds the storm is 6 miles away and you need to get to cover
 - 5 seconds for thunder to travel 1 mile, 30 seconds would be 6 miles away
- Small gatherings of trees will not protect you

Miscellaneous Reports & Announcements

Staff

- Concern with golfers spitting seeds on the course - greens and tees, would like to find out who they are

Steve thanked the board and said it has been a pleasure serving on the Golf Advisory Board but it is time for someone else to do it.

Meeting adjourned at 4:56pm.