

**GOLF ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2014
MINUTES**

Members Present: Cam Cherry, Lonnie Yingst, Lori Muzzana, Kelly Gilligan

Members Absent: Mark Johnson

Staff Present: Patty Rearden, Wade Altschwager, Keith Hollenback, Connie Caouette

Meeting called to order at 3:30pm.

Board will approve the April 28, 2014 minutes at the next meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Patty Rearden

Budget:

- We presented a balanced golf budget. However, it did not include any equipment replacement. Some of the golf carts are now seven years old; we have had them on a five year rotation in the past because they have a 3 year warranty covering most repairs, there are far less repairs needed, and the trade in value is much higher. In the past they were on a three year rotation and were changed to a five year rotation. In addition, we have continued to defer replacement of maintenance equipment.
- We have two debt payments totaling about \$240,000 a year. The largest debt will be paid off in FY2016, and the other will be paid off in FY2020.
- The City Manager will be doing a budget presentation to the City Commission at the Work Session on July 1 at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers.
- It's been a busy summer so far with short staff, many events, summer programs, and intensive work on budgets.
- Golf Reports are not available, but will get them out ASAP. Connie will have a report on revenues. The weather has had a negative impact on revenue.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Connie Cramer-Caouette

- Busiest, most stressful June ever in 30 years. Weather has been extremely bad this spring. Many of the events and tournaments have saved us revenue wise. Junior golf lessons had the worst weather ever. Numerous tournaments. Staff scheduling has been challenging just because of the coordination of so many tournaments and events. Don Ryan submitted his resignation several months ago; may have a suitable replacement soon. Putting many hours into merchandising and fixing computer errors and reconciliations.

- First Tee program -- difficulties getting the program completed with all the rain. Did some outside and in. The tournament was moved to Monday due to a tournament on Friday.
- Rain check: modified -- If the course closes due to heavy rain, snow or for safety reasons we will give a rain check.
- Shriner's Tournament: Used to have a four-some tournament with a Peoria format. Two years ago, they got a new coordinator and wanted to do a Calcutta and wanted to run eight-somes. Several years ago, the Golf Board established a policy that tournaments must have 100 players to run a shotgun tournament. The existing tournaments were grandfathered in at that time. Last year when they requested to change to eight-somes, they were advised it would be an additional \$1,000; it takes a lot more time, which reduces revenue. Comparisons: Bobcat Tournament, 205 players, \$7,000 in revenue, eight hours and 45 minutes. Course closed 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Shotgun was supposed to start at 8:30 a.m.; started at 8:40. Last group finished in 6 and 3/4 hours. Had to keep course open from 7 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. for 88 players. Had to charge them the extra green fees (100-88); a requirement for shotgun tournaments. Did not want to rent Anaconda Hills where they could have run any format they wished. Course closed for 8 hours and 15 minutes for 88 players; could have teed off all 88 players in 3 hours. Public was mad because it took them so long to play; but staff apologized and offered them a bucket of balls, which appeased all of them. Raised about \$4,300 with the extra \$1,000; otherwise the revenue would not have been good for that day.
- Revenue Report: June, down \$20,000 in revenue from last year. For the season, November 1 to date: \$840,000 in 2013 compared to \$811,000 in 2014; down \$29,000.
- Working on the golf app. Talked to Gary DeGooyer about using it for the High School Tournament.
- Ordered new Eagle Falls score cards. Will work on Anaconda Hills next.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Keith Hollenback, Eagle Falls

- Got through Senior Olympics and Shriner's tournaments with carts which was a challenge.
- Trying to catch up on mowing and spraying after all the rain.
- Working on gophers as much as we can.
- Need to repair washouts and pot holes from the rain. Millings are very difficult to patch.

Wade Altschwager, Anaconda Hills

- Trying to catch up on mowing and spraying after all the rain.
- Need to repair washouts and pot holes from the rain.
- Playing catch-up after all the events.
- Hardly any gophers this year.

OLD BUSINESS

Keith and Wade's Revenge Tournament

- Raised \$3,100. Tried to get it into the Golf Bag in the Tribune, but didn't get it covered. Regular early morning golfers hated it; but people that came out later liked it for the most part. People that played in the tournament had a really nice time. Consider just having a day in the future where the revenue goes to a capital project instead of running a tournament.

Montana Senior Olympics Tournament

- Went off really well, great staff.
- We hosted Montana Senior Olympics (13 sports) in Great Falls for four years. Goes to Helena for the next two years. Age requirement is 50.

NEW BUSINESS

- There was no new business.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lonnie Yingst

- Expressed concern about the barn at Anaconda Hills and what is going to happen to it. Would have to be a community effort to save it. It is in serious disrepair and won't last much longer without at least a new roof.

With no further business, meeting adjourned