



Minutes of the Golf Committee meeting held on

Minutes Golf Committee December 5, 2007

December 5, 2007, 7:00 a.m., at Rolling Hills Golf Course, 1415 N. Mill Avenue.

Members Present:

Robert Marshak, Chair
Dennis Brady
Clem Star
Alex Walsh
Fred Wood
Robert Lofgren
Ron Cosner

Members Absent:

John Bebbiling, Vice-Chair
Jim Harelson

City Staff Present:

Sam Thompson, Deputy Manager Parks and Recreation – Parks Services
Gladys Pedron, Administrative Assistant – Parks Services
Mike Armfield, Recreation Supervisor - Parks and Recreation
Tim Pfannenstien, Parks & Golf Course Supervisor - Parks and Recreation

Golf Course Concessionaires Present:

Jim Bellows, Golf Concessionaire
Bob Lockhart, Golf Pro Shop
Jennifer Marsh, Golf Pro Shop
James Godfrey, Food and Beverage Concessionaire
Danon Law, Food and Beverage Concessionaire

Meeting convened at 7:04 a.m.

Robert Marshak called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1 – Approval of Minutes – September 5, 2007 Meeting

Minutes of the September 5, 2007 meeting were accepted as written.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

No public appearances.

Agenda Item 3 – Introduction of new board members

Sam Thompson, Deputy Manager-Parks Services, Parks and Recreation Department made the introductions.

1. Welcome Ron Cosner and Clem Star.

Agenda Item 4 – Golf course conditions report – maintenance updates

Tim Pfannenstein, Golf Course Maintenance Supervisor, provided the updates on course maintenance activities at both facilities.

1. Orange markers installed at Ken McDonald, posts will be refurbished.
2. Last weekend they measured 1 ½" of rain at Ken McDonald and 1 ¼" at Rolling Hills – hurt the rounds.
3. Will start renovating bunkers at Ken McDonald.
4. Continuing tree work (planting, removing dead ones, trimming) as requested by home owners around Ken McDonald.
5. Significant amount of water fowl at Ken McDonald this year.

Agenda Item 5 – Update on over-seeding process

Tim Pfannenstein, Golf Course Maintenance Supervisor, provided the update on the over-seeding process at both courses.

1. Very fortunate to get great conditions/weather for over-seeding process in September.
2. Successful and disease free except for some pithium on the untreated seed.
3. Next year will use treated seed throughout (not just on the greens) which is an additional \$1500 cost for both courses.
4. Used Poa Trivialis at Rolling Hills to seed the greens with rye and Bent at Ken McDonald – both have germinated and both sets of greens are in really good shape.
5. Closing both courses for over-seeding worked well due to great weather/conditions.
6. The ranges and restaurants were open - no complaints about the courses being closed for 10 days.

Agenda Item 6 – Update on status of Western Canal Bike Path project

Sam Thompson, Deputy Manager-Parks Services, Parks and Recreation Department, provided updates on the Western Canal Bike Path project.

1. The plans are done. They have not been changed just reviewed by City staff.
2. The Transit department had issues with SRP that have been resolved.
3. Plans are finalized at 90%.
4. Target start date is March 2008.
5. Project start location has not yet been determined. They will work with the golf courses on the off season so revenues will not be impacted.

Agenda Item 7 – Rounds/Revenue of the Golf Enterprise

Sam Thompson, Deputy Manager-Parks Services, Parks and Recreation Department, provided an update on rounds and revenue at both golf courses.

1. September was slow, October was very good – rounds and revenue were up, November was pretty good as well.

2. Overall, both courses are doing very well.
3. Need smart marketing to bring up rounds.

Agenda Item 8 – Update on Rolling Hills restaurant concessionaire

Mike Armfield, Community Services Supervisor, Parks and Recreation Department, provided an update on the Rolling Hills restaurant concessionaire.

1. Five months into the contract with the City and Bellow's Golf.
2. New carpet has been ordered and wall treatments to be completed – additional work still in progress.
3. Business is not too far off initial revenue projections. They would like to develop more catering activities and special events.

Agenda Item 9 – Funding for leasing of golf course maintenance equipment

Sam Thompson, Deputy Manager-Parks Services, Parks and Recreation Department, discussed the topic and requested approval from the committee.

1. Golf equipment has not been purchased since 2000 and they are wearing out quickly.
2. To purchase minimal new equipment would be well over \$150,000.
3. Tim Pfannenstien has researched leasing options to obtain equipment needed. A five year lease would run about \$20,000-\$30,000 a year – less than \$150,000.
4. The economic conditions of the golf fund do not allow needed equipment to be purchased. Payment plan through a lease agreement to own the equipment.
5. Fred Wood made a motion that the Golf Committee give approval to the appropriate City committee to negotiate a lease for equipment needed to maintain the golf courses.
Robert Lofgren – second, all in favor, no opposition.

Agenda Item 10 – Chair/Board Member Comments

1. Robert Marshak made a recommendation that signs be placed near the greens that say "Repair Ball Marks."
2. Robert Lofgren made a suggestion/recommendation that someone responds to the article that was written in The Tempe Republic on November 29, 2007 regarding Rolling Hills Golf Course. Robert Marshak will respond.
3. Ad Hoc Committee meeting tentatively scheduled with the neighborhood group on December 11, 2007 at 6pm at Ken McDonald Restaurant.
4. Robert Lofgren complimented the maintenance group on the traps at Rolling Hills....thank you.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

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Reviewed by: Sam Thompson, Deputy Manager-Parks Services, Parks and Recreation Department (480) 350-5234