

Golf Commission Minutes
Tuesday, March 13, 2007 5:30 pm
Eichhorn House Dining Room

Members Present: Klamfoth, Lutz, VanDaalen
Members Absent: Murray, Striepe
Staff Present: Ray, Snook, Mason
Council Present: Ribich, Rasmussen
Visitors Present: Don Koehn, Becky David, Peg Reints, Ellen Crayne

Summary of Formal Action: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chairperson Van Daalen.

Motion: Minutes were approved.

02-07 Moved: Klamfoth Seconded: Lutz
Yes: 3 No: 0 Absent: 2

Regular Business:

1. Introduction of Greg Mason, PGA Professional

Ray introduced Greg Mason, PGA Pro and Pro Shop Manager. He told about himself and his experiences. He stated that he is not one to make major changes especially if the operation is generally good. He has hired Norm Lutjen, a retired PGA pro to work in the Pro Shop. He expects to work about 50 hours per week. He plans on talking to last year's staff to interview for the remaining hours. He has met with the new Country Club staff. Greg hopes to see everybody in the shop this summer.

2. Youth Golf Presentation.

Becky David reviewed the Youth Golf Program and handed out an information sheet. She talked about the mission and the history of the program. She reviewed the challenges and strengths of the program. It is an all volunteer program with a paid golf pro teaching the four 1 hour clinics. VanDaalen stated the reason for the report is to see how the Commission can support the efforts of the program. Ray mentioned the Quality of Life Grants for some training materials. David will communicate with Mason on schedule and clinics. David thanked the Commission and the City for the free course time that has been provided since the program inception. She said they would like to have an IGA end of season youth tournament. The biggest challenge has been finding volunteers. Ribich suggested the Volunteer Center. Ray thanked David for her report.

3. Season Pass Payment Plan

Ray reviewed the payment plan system. The past staff reported that it was a difficult system to administer and there were cases of abuse. They mentioned to Mason to expect to have some people to want to play and pay for their season pass later. Mason doesn't see any business generated by having this program.

Motion: To not offer a payment plan for season passes for 2007 golf season.

03-07 Moved: Lutz Seconded: Klamfoth
Yes: 3 No: 0 Absent: 2

Reports and Communications:

Director's Report:

- Ray introduced some of the public that wanted to ask some questions. Don Koehn is concerned that the prices continue to go up and people are leaving. VanDaalen stated the increase this year was an inflationary 3% and he doesn't see how anyone can complain about this type of increase. Lutz reported the fees remained the same in 2006 except for an increase in the season cart and the adult season pass. Many of the fees hadn't changes for two years. Kruckenberg stated that many people are still concerned about the increase in the trail fee form several years ago.

Ribich said the prices are competitive with the value and quality of the product. The City invested \$1.5 million dollars a couple of years ago. He has citizens ask why are we subsidizing the course with tax dollars. Users should pay for it. Ray said we are making progress and the subsidy has been reduced the past two years. He also said the maintenance costs have held firm except for inflation.

Staff Report:

- Snook said the course lost one tree and many branches. He hopes to get Green Team and golf team volunteers to help with the clean up.
- He reviewed a letter to cart owners on suggested actions and etiquette to care for the turf with the new cart paths. The letter will be sent to the trail fee purchasers.
- He said there is a pre-con meeting for the cold storage building next week and we are waiting for the ground conditions before construction starts.
- He says staff is hired except for one position.

Club Communication:

- The County Club has hired a new chef- Kale Crawford.

Chairperson's Report:

- None

Next Meeting: Next meeting Tuesday, April 10, noon at the Country Club.

Adjournment: Adjournment was at 6:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tab Ray
Director of Parks and Recreation

