

## Golf Course Advisory Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

**Call to Order:** at 5:31pm

**Present:**

Laura Cruet

Michelle Aslin

Tim Johnson

Lori Coffelt

Eric Olson

KayLinda Crawford

Mike Lippiatt

**Public Comment:**

None offered

**GCAS Action Items:**

Approval of August's Minutes:

Moved to approve by Tim and seconded by Lori.

**GCAS Information and Discussion Items:**

Discussion/Update of topics from August 29, 2019 GCAS Meeting

- Golf Course Maintenance Issues (Petition update)
  - Tim felt it was important to follow up on the petition and make sure it was presented to the PRB and County Council. Tim presented the petition to the PRB on September 12, 2019 and gave a summary of the points that were listed in the petition. The petition had 60 signatures that were provided to councilor Randall Rytty who presented it to the County Council on September 24, 2019. Laura asked if the petitioners were aware of this. Tim said they have been apprised and were thankful they were heard and it went on public record. Laura also added that Mike gave an update at LAGA on how they are addressing the maintenance issues and this was added to the newsletter that went out to all LAGA members.
- Staffing Concerns for 2020-2021 LAGC Season
  - Laura asked "Will the request for employees happen before the end of the year?" We know it is difficult to fill positions especially when it is seasonal. Eric and Mike talked about putting in a request for 4 more Full Time employees in the hopes that would help cover both the Ice Rink and the Golf Course. They feel if they are benefited full-time employees of the county it will help with recruiting and retention. Laura asked if the county was supportive of this. Mike said he doesn't think so, but they have to try. The petition may help with the efforts to have more full-time staff to maintain the golf course. Mike and Eric both said they would have all requests for employees in before Christmas. The county has extended Oasis (2 people) and contracted with LA Landscaping (1 person) as well for the rest of the season. We have already lost our

temps for the season. We feel getting the county to do contracted work helped to set a precedent for the future. The options of contracting work should always be considered when needed.

- Mike and Eric - As far as the Golf Course Manager we will be putting in a request before Christmas with the other requisitions for staff. We will continue to use the contracted help as needed. Tim asked if there were some way to use the folks that have volunteered to help and make them paid casual employees. Mike talked about some ways they are looking at for this possibility. Tim also asked if we can have LAGA help maintain the #1 tee box. Ed Griggs did all the work to make that look really nice in the past and it seems to have been neglected. Tim talked about how it makes the course look more appealing and inviting. Laura said she would take it to LAGA. It was suggested this was something the volunteers could do as well. Eric said his plan for the GC next year is to go Organic. There is only 1 golf course that is 100% Organic currently, he would like to be able to say the same.
- Golf Course Fee Structure Update
  - The Fee structure was presented at the last PRB meeting but Tim did not give the entire presentation due to a full agenda. He will try to present the full presentation at the next meeting and have this as an action item for the PRB to vote on for approval.
  - The course improvements will most likely happen next year and we need to think about changing the structure for the annual members since we will only be a 9-hole course for the season. Tim suggested charging ½ the fee for annual members and leaving all the other daily use fees the same. Mike said he was really interested in increasing the range fees. The cost of range balls has gone up and LAGC charges a lower fee for range balls than most courses. Laura asked Mike if he foresees tee box back up with 9-holes. He said there is a way you can schedule the tee times that helps with this. He did look at tournaments and they will need to be capped at 60 players. He added that this will all be painful for a while, but 2021 will be great.

#### Parks and Recreation Board Report - Tim

#### CIP Projects

Brian Brogan and the LA County is planning to install the irrigation system and perform the course improvements at the same time (this was stated at the last PRB meeting by Brian Brogan). There is a \$4.5 million budget for this project (irrigation and course improvements). Currently the County is getting architectural plans for the irrigation system only to determine cost. The current estimate is approximately \$2.5 million for the irrigation system alone and the remaining \$2 million will be used for course improvements. It is unclear the exact course improvements that are being considered but according to the irrigation presentation in August by MRWM they will include tee boxes, bunkers, cart paths, and safety netting. Mike Lippiatt informed the committee that there is money for the sand traps that has been allocated above and beyond the CIP funds. The CIP money will be for the new irrigation system and the course improvements and the sand trap improvements may be funded by additional dollars. According to Mike the sand trap project may require its own RFP due to the cost alone. There was extensive discussion regarding the need for a golf course design architect to help with the CIP and GC improvements. Tim stated that the course improvements are the most critical elements of the project that will have the most impact on the course. New tee boxes and various design elements can make it more appealing to the community and increase playability for golfers of all levels. MRWM is scheduled to provide an update on the project at the next PRB meeting October 10, 2019.

Golf Course Management Report - Mike

Staffing is good for the shop, carts and range currently.

Head Professional – Michael not present

Not present, no report

LAGA Report – Laura

LAGA is winding down for the season. Last tournament is this weekend, the Oktoberfest. Should be fun, they have 52 players signed up. LAGA will be doing a Strategic Retreat on the October 24<sup>th</sup> to plan moving forward. They will be losing Tony Fox as he terms out after 6 years on the committee. It will be a big loss.

LAWGA Report - Laura

September Classic was a big success, we had 72 ladies. It was a crazy good time.

The next tournament is The Hundra, October 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. This is usually the closing tournament for the season. The men's Ryders Cup will also be played the weekend of October 11-14.

**Open Discussion:**

Eric wanted to report that they are doing some light re-seeding on the greens, esp. #14 and #15. They learned a valuable lesson, next year they will close the course during aerification. This year they didn't stop play and it was difficult to do the complete process without interruptions due to golfers. The lack of spreading the sand and watering immediately after the process caused some burning on the greens. This is what is believed to have caused the severe damage to holes number 14 and 15. Tim asked Eric if there are plans to reseed the tee boxes that were damaged by crows digging from grubs. Eric said the tee boxes will fill in and they will reseed if needed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:19

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Coffelt

Recorder