

MINUTES

Beaver Meadow Golf Advisory Committee Meeting July 9, 2020

In Attendance: Chris Mulleavey (Chair), Nathan Fennessy, Linda Mattlage, Bob Whatmough, Jennifer Kretovic, Phil Davis, Bernard “Sid” Chase, Deputy City Manager Brian LeBrun, and City Manager Tom Aspell.

Absent: Bob Norton, Fran Hunt, Dick Holden, and Roger Jobin.

The meeting was called to order. Deputy City Manager Brian LeBrun read the Covid-19 – Public Meeting Procedures Notice in compliance with Governor Sununu’s Executive Order #12.

Sid Chase indicated that he had received an inquiry from Bob Norton asking when these meetings will be able to be held in person. All committees will continue to meet remotely until such time as the City Manager determines it is safe to meet in person.

1) **Public Input:** There was no public input.

2) **Approval of June 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes:** Jennifer Kretovic motioned, and Linda Mattlage seconded, to approve the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved with a voice vote.

3) **2021 Membership Rate Recommendation:**

Three options were discussed:

1. A 5% increase over original 2020 traditional rates;
2. Keep original 2020 traditional rates with no increase; and
3. Increase 2020 revised rates.

Discussion ensued. It was noted that whatever rate is recommended must meet FY 2021 budgeted numbers for membership and rates. In addition, when asking for General Fund support for some operating costs, and particularly capital costs, it is very important to demonstrate that we are maximizing revenue.

We did not see an anticipated uptick in membership numbers at the revised 2020 price. There was discussion as to why. Perhaps people had already made choices when announced, or there is too small of a sample size (in time) to make an informed decision. Green fees and carts exceeded budget numbers.

There was discussion about viewing tee times as inventory, and whether it makes sense to discount memberships, which may increase the number of members and impact the availability of tee times and green fee revenue. There’s a need to maintain a balance of membership, green fees, and outings revenue. Our membership rates are significantly below others in the area.

Nathan Fennessy motioned, and Linda Mattlage seconded, to recommend Option 3, which is to increase the 2020 revised rates to: Senior M-F \$895; Adult 7 days \$1,295; Young Adult \$950; and maintain rates of \$195 for Junior and \$600 for Collegiate. Rates for Adult Weekday, Family, 7 Day, Family Weekday, and Twilight will not be offered for the 2021 season.

Nathan Fennessy amended his motion and recommended including a fall recruitment special where a new member pays half of the applicable 2021 membership rate and plays through the fall, with the balance due prior to playing the spring. Linda Mattlage seconded the amended motion. The motion carried 4-0, with one abstention.

Cart membership rates will be offered in 2021 at the same rate as originally approved by the City Council for FY 2020. We will have a new cart fleet with increased expenses for 2021. The Committee expressed interest in looking at options for golf carts with increased technology, such as Bluetooth and control measures over where carts may go.

4) Course Update:

- Turf is holding up, despite the heat, drought, and heavy rain.
- Many positive comments have been received from players.
- Cart paths have taken a beating in recent downpours.
- Plants along #9 fence have been planted. Many thanks to Assistant City Planner Beth Fenstermacher for her design and hands-on help placing plants for installation.
- Will be losing our college age staff earlier due to earlier returns to college for pandemic protocols.

5) USGA Tree Report: To be discussed in August with review of progress on both USGA reports.

6) Donation from Page Belting:

- Page Belting and friends of Jim Marshall purchased a memorial tree in his honor. The tree was planted between holes 4 and 5.
- Page Belting also purchased a new bell for hole #12 on the Holden Memorial.
- Page Belting purchased a large smart TV to be used for scoring tournaments and outings. Phil Davis noted that it really elevates the tournament experience, making events similar to NHGA events. Many positive comments were received during the Chet Wheeler Memorial Tournament. It will result in time and materials savings from traditional paper and marker scoring.
- A report will go to City Council in August and, if accepted, a thank you note will be sent.

7) Adjournment: Jennifer Kretovic motioned and Linda Mattlage seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned on a unanimous voice vote.

8) Next Meeting: Thursday, August 13th, at 8:00 AM.