



CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2012, 7:00 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Golf Course Committee of the City of San Clemente was called to order on Thursday, January 5, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., at City Council Chambers, 100 Avenida Presidio, San Clemente, California 92672.

1. ROLL CALL

Committee members present: Tim Kiernan, Parker Steel, Dick Veale, Rick Divel, Mike Hurlbut, Harold Larson.

Committee Members absent: George Gooch

Staff present: Gus Nelson, Golf Course Manager
Mary Colletti, Recording Secretary

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Divel called for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 3, 2011.

MOTIONED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KIERNAN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER LARSON, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (6-0-1) (WITH COMMITTEE MEMBER VEALE ABSTAINING DUE TO HIS ABSENCE AT THAT MEETING), TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 3, 2011.

3. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

4. OLD BUSINESS

GC Manager Nelson discussed the status of the impending computerization of the tee sheet. He said the demo of the new computer system to the Pro Shop had been done, but the computer system has yet to be installed. Nelson said Dave was not really interested in implementing the program so it might not happen. CM Hurlbut said he has spoken with the counter staff at the Pro Shop regarding the Active Network/Click for Tee Times system, and the feedback he has received from them is apprehension that the methods for assigning tee times that have been in place for over 20 years will be completely changed. CM Hurlbut asked Mr. Nelson to clarify that the purpose of the proposed computer system of Click for Tee Times is to attract more players to fill in lesser-used tee times, such as in the late afternoon. GC Manager Nelson responded that, yes, the idea is to fill in the blank times on the tee sheet, allow reservations online 24 hours a day, and to make the process more open and efficient, but will not change any policies regarding the way tee times are assigned.

CMs Hurlbut, Larson and Veale were all concerned that there is a misunderstanding among the Pro Shop staff that the current policies will change. They asked that a statement be written on paper and given to the Pro Shop, as well as posted for the public, that would state exactly what the new procedure on unused tee times would entail. GC Manager Nelson agreed to draft and distribute this statement, and said that the plan is to keep the current tee time assignment policies in place. CM Hurlbut stressed that the best way to acclimate them to the change is to have them take "baby steps" and to have the exact process spelled out clearly for them on paper. GC Manager Nelson agreed and assured the CMs that the only difference will be that the Pro Shop staff will enter the tee times into the computer rather than by hand on a tee sheet. The CMs and GC Manager Nelson all agreed that after a few weeks of using the new computer system, the Pro Shop staff would be fully acclimated and their apprehensions alleviated.

CM Nelson coordinated a meeting date of Friday, January 13, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. for the Greens Subcommittee to meet.

5. NEW BUSINESS

None.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

CM Hurlbut mentioned that he had received informal verbal communication from residents above hole #16 who were very happy to have ocean views now that the Golf Course staff has cleared the brush/poison oak from that area.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Monthly Report and Ongoing Business Update

GC Manager Nelson distributed the Rounds and Revenue reports for November and December 2011. He said that the weather has been perfect, the greens very nice, and our YTD rounds are up by 900 rounds and revenue up by about \$45,000. He said it has been a good 6 months thus far. Mr. Nelson summarized his Monthly Staff report (see report for details), citing landscape improvement on the slope between the #16 green and the #17 tee, as well as upcoming activity for January/February, which will include grass treatment, miscellaneous tree work, and improving the #8 tee area. It will be leveled in the area between the cart path and the retaining wall, and the “bumpy” ficus tree roots and dead trees will be removed.

8. ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CM Hurlbut reiterated his concerns with the apprehension expressed to him by the counter staff at the Pro Shop. He said they asked to have time to get used to the new system and not to have any of the traditional tee time practices that have been in place for over 20 years changed. He stressed two points: 1) We take baby steps to acclimate the Pro Shop staff to the new system and 2) We stress to them that the purpose of the new system is to fill unused tee times to capture more revenue.

CM Veale brought up the subject of sand buckets in the carts for filling divots. He said that while there are 2 buckets of sand currently on the golf carts, after filling multiple divots on hole #1, he runs out of sand, and there is no opportunity to refill the buckets until you reach hole #6 (with another refill area at hole #16). He itemized each hole on the Golf Course, highlighting the holes with the most divots. CM Veale would like a tray of full sand buckets placed for easy accessibility at hole #2, where there is usually a back-up in play and golfers would have time to grab a few more sand buckets. CM Hurlbut agreed, but said that he believes that only about 20% of golfers actually fill divots. CM Veale responded that while that may be true, even if only 1 out of 20 carts had players who filled divots, that would be better than the current situation. GC Nelson said he would agree to additional sand bins on the course, but did not favor the idea of individual buckets at a refill station, citing the difficulty of maintaining that method (he stated that it has been tried unsuccessfully in the past). He said he would put a ½ whisky barrel full of sand on any tee requested by this Committee.

CM Veale’s second discussion point was to ask for better visibility for the 200 yard marker on the Driving Range, as well as having a 125 yard marker (currently there are markers for 50, 75, 100, 150 and 200 yards, but not for 125 yards) placed centrally on the Driving Range. GC Manager Nelson said they continually try to build up the base of the 200 yard marker and will continue their efforts. He will look into installing a 125 yard marker.

CM Larson asked if there will be more concrete repair work budgeted in the new fiscal year, and he cited areas in need of repair at some of the cart path turns. GC Manager Nelson agreed that

more concrete/cart path repair was needed and that this was reflected in his budget request. CM Larson also mentioned that walkways at #15 and #16 need repair.

CM Steel said he is looking forward to tee times going online, as he usually plays as a single, and currently, he has to appear at the Golf Course and wait for a tee time. He said he will post the statement regarding computerized tee times (to be composed by Mr. Nelson) on the Golf Course Facebook page. He said the Facebook page reaches about 500 people a month. CM Larson will email the tee time statement to the Men’s Club, once it is available.

Chair Divel stated that he is very pleased with the condition of the greens on the Golf Course.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTIONED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER HURLBUT, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KIERNAN, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting of the Golf Course Committee to be held on March 1, 2012.

Rick Divel, Chair, Golf Course Committee

Date: _____

Gus Nelson, Golf Course Manager

Date: _____