



## **CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE**

### **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2014, 7:00 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the Golf Course Committee of the City of San Clemente was called to order on Thursday, September 4, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., at City Council Chambers, 100 Avenida Presidio, San Clemente, California 92672.

#### **1. ROLL CALL**

Committee members present: George Gooch, Rick Divel, Nick Azzollini, Tim Kiernan, Kevin Kellerman

Committee members absent: Dick Veale, Parker Steel

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

#### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Azzollini called for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Golf Course Committee held August 7, 2014.

MOTIONED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KIERNAN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER GOOCH, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE HELD AUGUST 7, 2014.

#### **3. PUBLIC INPUT**

None.

#### **4. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### Discussion of FY 2014 Results

GC Manager Nelson summarized and distributed the Annual Totals for Rounds and Revenues for FY 2013/2014. He summarized and discussed the results with the CMs. Overall, golf fee revenues of \$1,918,000 were down by roughly \$6,000 from last year, while the 85,000 rounds were down by about 4% from last year. Mr. Nelson and the CMs discussed how more golf courses closed than opened last year, and how some golf courses doing poorly are linked to real estate, and so cannot close. They also discussed the possibility of losing players to the recent fee increase (probably a temporary loss), and to the closure of San Onofre power plant (many employees used to play), as well as the loss of corporate outings at the Golf Course (economy woes), and the fact that many young people aren't as interested in golfing as were their predecessors. In general, the golf business model in the US is continuing to slide. GC Manager Nelson said the industry is hopeful that some stability will return when the "baby boom generation" retires.

They also discussed Dave Cook's responsibility to track resident cards in order to capture all the revenue that will be generated from resident card renewal. They stressed that, while there is signage saying resident cards will be checked, Pro Shop staff should ask each player to show their resident card.

GC Manager Nelson continued his summary, saying that even with the decrease (from the previous FY) of rounds and revenues, the Golf Course managed to roughly break even for FY 2013/2014, due in no small part to the revenue from the Clubhouse restaurant. He said the restaurant is "doing gangbusters", and the Golf Course's share of their revenues greatly exceeded that projected for the year.

GC Manager Nelson, in response to questions from the CMs, discussed the Golf Course's budgeted expenses which include General Fund Overhead and the Debt Service. He said staff continues to conserve on expenditures (no seasonal staff hired this year, even though it was budgeted). Mr. Nelson added that many Golf Course staff members are slated for retirement in the somewhat near future, so expenditures will most likely lessen as they retire.

## 6. COMMUNICATIONS

None

## 7. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

None.

**8. ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

CM Divel commended GC Manager Nelson for the renovation of the #18 tee. Mr. Nelson discussed with the CMs the unsightly kikuyu patches on the Golf Course. He said those patches, treated with herbicide, are starting to go off-color, and will eventually disappear after repeat applications.

CM Kellerman asked for sand bottles at the #2 tee box, so that walking golfers can pick one up and fill in divots as desired, and then return the empty bottle to a designated drop-off. He also wondered if this Committee should further discuss the private cart issue. GC Manager Nelson said it will be a negotiation issue once the Pro Shop contractor, Dave Cook’s contract is up for renewal. After more discussion of this, it was decided that the House Subcommittee (comprised of CMs Steel, Kiernan and Kellerman) will “do discovery” on the private golf cart issue, taking into account the effect it would have on any renewed contract between the City and Dave Cook.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTIONED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER DIVEL, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KELLERMAN, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. to the Joint Council/Commissions Meeting to be held September 9, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nick Azzollini, Golf Course Committee

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gus Nelson, Golf Course Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_