



CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 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, November 6, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., at the Community Center, 100 North Calle Seville, San Clemente, California 92672.

1. ROLL CALL

Committee members present: George Gooch, Rick Divel, Nick Azzollini, Tim Kiernan, Kevin Kellerman, Dick Veale, Parker Steel

Committee members absent: None.

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 4, 2014

MOTIONED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER DIVEL, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER STEEL, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (5-0), WITH COMMITTEE MEMBERS VEAL AND STEEL ABSTAINING, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 4, 2014.

B. Approval of Minutes of the Joint Council/Committees/Commissions Meeting held September 9, 2014

MOTIONED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER DIVEL, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KELLERMAN, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (5-0), WITH COMMITTEE MEMBERS GOOCH AND VEAL ABSTAINING, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JOINT COUNCIL/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 9, 2014.

3. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

4. OLD BUSINESS

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

1. Request from staff to ask City Council to Extend Private Cart Policy Deadline until June 30, 2015, or when new Pro Shop Concession Contract is Approved.

Golf Course Manager Nelson presented this item for discussion. He stated that private cart usage on the course expires December 31, 2014 and if the committee intends to try to develop a set of conditions to present to City Council to allow the continued use of private carts then it is necessary to ask for more time. Nelson explained that the private cart issue and the golf pro shop contract are linked and should be synchronized. Nelson explained that even if the committee developed rules for carts independent of the pro contract negotiations, he would be unable to state definitively to Council what the program would actually cost without negotiations with the golf pro concession.

MOTIONED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KELLERMAN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER GOOCH, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, TO RECOMMEND TO CITY COUNCIL THAT THE PRIVATE CART POLICY DEADLINE BE EXTENDED UNTIL THE DATE THAT THE NEW PRO SHOP CONCESSION CONTRACT IS APPROVED.

2. Request from Staff to Discuss Turf Removal in Certain Areas of the Golf Course, per the City Council-approved Water Conservation Landscape Plan (authored by this Committee), as New Rebates Have Become Available.

Golf Course Manager Nelson distributed copies of an aerial map of the Golf Course charted with an area targeted for water conservation treatment: the area between the street and the cart path on number 5 (along ave. San Luis Rey), about 2.3 acres. He stated that the Golf Course's discount through the City on reclaimed water for irrigation had expired, and that water prices were expected to continue to rise each year, probably by 10-15%. This Committee discussed with Mr. Nelson the rebate potential (rebates are available through the Metropolitan Water District), and Mr. Nelson described precisely an area on the map (this area was in Phase 2 of this Committee's Water Conservation Landscape Plan), and the proposed treatment of turf removal with replacement by wood chips. They discussed in which areas they would remove turf and place chips only, and in which areas (the "display areas" such as those near cart paths), they would remove turf and add drought-tolerant plants. This Committee decided to implement the treatments one area at a time, keeping in mind that the rebate limit is \$100,000 per facility (the area proposed by Golf Course Manager Nelson tonight should take about \$30,000), and that the rebate offer expires July 1, 2015.

The CMs decided to have a precise plan in place for the next regular meeting, in order to take advantage of the rebate potential. CM Kiernan asked GC Manager Nelson to look at the slopes on #17 and #9 for possible water conservation treatment potential.

GC Manager Nelson suggested that the rebate might cover some ranch rail fencing and that he will check on that, and the CMs will discuss this possibility with the Men's Club, in deciding where it might be installed. Nelson and the Committee agreed to table the discussion until the next meeting in order to get more input and finalize what the proposed changes would look like.

C. Request from Staff to Discuss Possible Tree Removals in Certain Greenside Locations per the USGA Agronomist Report.

GC Manager Nelson distributed an aerial map of the Golf Course charted with the suggested location of possible tree removal: the stand of ash trees behind the #17 green as recommended by the USGA Agronomist. These proposed removals are to avoid continued root and seed pod damage to the putting green. Nelson said the discussion had been delayed while the City sorted out the public tree and views issue. Nelson said that there would likely be a resident or two that would benefit from the removal but stated this was being done solely for the benefit of the golf course.

GC Manager Nelson discussed with this Committee the problems that would be solved by the proposed tree removals at #17, and how they could search for and restore the original boundaries of the #17 green. Nelson said a large palm tree, possibly two would be planted to aid the existing palms in forming an aesthetically pleasing ring around the back of the green. The CMs agreed that the proposed tree removal would only give positive results that would benefit the Golf Course and the golfers.

MOTIONED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER DIVEL, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KELLERMAN, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, TO REMOVE DESIGNATED TREES AT THE #17 GREEN, AND TO CONSIDER SEARCHING FOR AND RESTORING THE ORIGINAL BOUNDARIES OF THE #17 GREEN.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

None

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

GC Manager Nelson discussed his monthly report and the ongoing maintenance of the Golf Course, as well as the Rounds and Revenue report. Revenue for October was up by \$4,000 from last year. Overall, July-September revenue was down from last year.

The Committee Members all agreed that they would like the Pro Shop to enforce resident card renewals, to capture all revenue possible in that area.

8. ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CM Kellerman asked that the 50 yard sign be re-installed on the Driving Range, and Mr. Nelson will do so after obtaining a new signpost.

CM Steel distributed information on a Digital Caddie device, available at no charge to Golf Courses who want to provide GPS for golfers (see his flyer "Digital Caddies" for more information). CM Steel mentioned that these are already used by most golf courses, including Shore Cliffs in San Clemente. The CMs agreed that the House Subcommittee could bring this item to Golf Pro Dave Cook's attention, especially in light of the upcoming contract renewal. In addition, GC Manager Nelson suggested the House Subcommittee also discuss putting a cap on the cart rental price and a cap on the Golf Pro term, as well as providing guidelines for marshalling on the golf course, in preparation for the upcoming Golf Pro contract renewal. He said currently these items are not in the contract.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTIONED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER DIVEL, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER VEAL, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. to the next regular meeting, to be held on January 8, 2015.

Nick Azzollini, Golf Course Committee

Date: _____

Gus Nelson, Golf Course Manager

Date: _____