



CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 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, May 1, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., at City Council Chambers, 100 Avenida Presidio, San Clemente, California 92672.

1. ROLL CALL

Committee members present: Rick Divel, Parker Steel, Nick Azzollini, Dick Veale, Tim Kiernan

Committee members absent: George Gooch, Mike Hurlbut

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Steel called for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Golf Course Committee held March 6, 2014.

MOTIONED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER AZZOLLINI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER DIVEL, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE HELD MARCH 6, 2014.

3. PUBLIC INPUT

Resident Dan Harney asked this Committee to revisit the decision to ban private golf carts. He thinks this decision was based on information from ten years ago that is now obsolete and that banning golf carts has not increased revenue to the extent projected. He would like private golf carts to continue to be allowed on the GC

Resident Kent Bergstrom said he has been here since 1988 and he enjoyed the Golf Course then, but he thinks the City is "slowly destroying" it by replacing greens, raising rates, remodeling and

Golf Course Committee Minutes of May 1, 2014

cutting back on maintenance. He cited the cart path that goes across #16, and called it a poor landscaping decision. He thinks the rate increase is resulting in loss of play, and objected to banning private carts, and to the increase in cart rental fee. He said his friends have been “driven away”, and he thinks the Golf Course should “offer a better product”, not raise rates. He mentioned his dismay that the Golf Course was being aerified two days before the Men’s Club tournament.

Resident and City Council Member Bob Baker, said, firstly, that perhaps the committee should revisit the cart issue once before the deadline in Decmember. Secondly, he commended Staff and this Committee in regard to a recent assessment report for the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Dept. which commended the Golf Course and its staff. He said the report had “glowing things to say” about the Golf Course.

4. OLD BUSINESS

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Schedule Subcommittee Meetings

The CMs discussed possible times and dates for the Greens and the House Subcommittee meetings. The next Greens Subcommittee meeting was scheduled tentatively for Friday May 9, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. GC Manager Nelson will email the CMs to coordinate dates and times for this meeting, as well as for the House Subcommittee Meeting.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Monthly Report and Ongoing Business Update.

GC Manager Nelson summarized his report (included in the CM packets) and distributed the Rounds and Revenue reports for March and April 2014. He stated that for the year, the Golf Course is down 1500 rounds, and up \$30,000 compared to last year, probably due to more weekend rounds and a spike in resident card sales. Most of the CMs said they had not heard any complaints from players regarding the \$2 greens fee increase in April.

GC Manager Nelson advised the CMs that the proposed leasing of a piece of Golf Course property (an alley at the terminus of East Avenida San Gabriel and South El Camino Real) to applicant La Ventura for wedding/special events parking, had been approved by the Planning Commission. GC Manager Nelson said that La Ventura was still in the “concept stage”, and the finished project could take 1-2 years..

Golf Course Committee Minutes of May 1, 2014

Further to his monthly report, GC Manager Nelson discussed the new Clubhouse computer which is still being tested by Pro Shop staff. He hopes to convince Golf Pro Dave Cook that the system installed on the computer will make things more streamlined for Mr. Cook's business and staff, and will result in better capture of revenues. In response to Mr. Cook's complaint of the computer being "slow", GC Manager Nelson will have the City IT department change the router and convert it to a wired connection instead of WiFi if necessary, to make it as fast as possible and to allay any trepidation Mr. Cook might have about using it.

The CMs and GC Manager Nelson discussed some revenue splits between the Golf Course and Mr. Cook's business. A) 75% of driving range fees go to Mr. Cook's business and 25% go to the Golf Course, and B) 72% of cart rental fees go to Mr. Cook's business and 28% go to the Golf Course.

In further discussion of his monthly report, GC Manager Nelson summarized current Golf Course maintenance projects including applying organic fertilizer, herbicide, the standard fairway grass treatment, and aerification, and the replacement of some of the blue tees. GC Manager Nelson will review the blue tee at #18, which CMs Veale and Kiernan think is not level.

GC Manager Nelson and the CMs discussed irrigation and the price of water (water prices are projected to go up in July, perhaps by 6%) and discussed revisiting this Committee's water conservation guidelines which has only been completed partly through Phase 1. He said water conservation is crucial, not only for economic reasons but especially as the government mandate to cut consumption by 20% is impending.

GC Manager Nelson and the CMs agreed that the private golf cart issue has been thoroughly reviewed and that the decision to discontinue allowing private golf carts will stand, but agreed that it could be agendized at any future date by this Committee as desired.

8. ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CM Divel asked for a drop zone on #13. He also discussed the upcoming fence installation requested by the church near #17. GC Manager Nelson said this project will go before the Planning Commission, and the fencing will probably be installed this summer.

CM Kiernan asked about the City's pending plan for possible removal/replacement of trees to conserve views, and GC Manager Nelson said it appears to be in the final draft stages. He believes that the proposed plan would require an applicant to comply with any Master Plan change or exception, and would have to bring any issues regarding tree removal or replacement on the Golf Course to this Committee and to City Council.

Golf Course Committee Minutes of May 1, 2014

CM Kiernan distributed a diagram of a stretching exercise machine (cost: approximately \$3000) and proposed it as an amenity to golfers; it allows them to stretch in ways designed to improve a player's golf swing. GC Manager Nelson will discuss this idea with Risk Management.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTIONED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER DIVEL, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER AZZOLLINI, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. to the next regular meeting of the Golf Course Committee, to be held July 3, 2014.

Parker Steel, Chair, Golf Course Committee

Date: _____

Gus Nelson, Golf Course Manager

Date: _____