

MINUTES
MUNICIPAL GOLF COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2014 @ 7 A.M.
KRUEGER HASKELL GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE

The regular meeting of the Municipal Golf Committee of the City of Beloit, WI was held on August 20, 2014 at the Krueger Haskell Golf Course Clubhouse. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 a.m.

Members Present: Ed Armstrong, Bill Howard, Ida Lenz, Noah Scharmer, Harry Wiersgalla

Members Absent: Bess Davies, Gary Gard, Gary Sherer

Staff: Mark Young, Golf Course Supervisor
Brian Ramsey, Director of Parks & Leisure Services
Kim Waite, City Staff
Greg Boysen, Public Works Director

Guests: Vince Borgogni

1. Approve Minutes from July 16, 2014 Meeting

Ida Lenz made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Bill Howard. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Club Reports

- Men's – We are doing well so far. There will be a steak fry at the end of the month and there is more than anticipated participation this time around. The men's club match play is coming up soon also.
- Women's – Everything is going good and lately we finished 3 major outings. Next Tuesday we will be having the Pink Ball playday.
- Seniors – Nothing to report

3. Citizen Participation – Vince Borgogni spoke on his proposal to change the back 9 to becoming the front 9. He believes that it will increase the amount of players and bring in more revenue. He also believes that the present front 9 presents a much more difficult start to the game when you're not warmed up front.. Vince suggested doing a trial run to see how successful things will be. Kim Waite stated that some people

complain that they don't want to start on the back 9 because they don't want to go from a par 5 to a par 3. Vince also proposed some suggestions for considerations.

- Supplying donated golf balls for golfers to use
- Loan out golf clubs donated by golfers with little to no cost
- Approach the Boys and Girls Club on Burton Street to see if they can open up their football field when it is not in use for a golf practice range
- Offer a discount rate of \$10 for 18 holes for those 18 years and over with student ID cards

Brian responded, we have talked about donating golf balls before. We already loan out golf clubs donated by golfers. We would not approach the Boys and Girls Club on Burton Street because it is not ours. There is no way to control it and it would tear up their field. We are already the most inexpensive in comparison to other courses around the area and a discount rate is already in place for students over 18. The City of Beloit did not spend 73 million dollars to expand the Public Schools. The taxes are levied by the schools and not by the city. The boat launch on the Rock River is not free, some activities at Grinnell are not free, and breakfast and lunch are also not free.

Brian thanks Vince for his presentation and we have tried some of his points already, some didn't work. We are always trying to look at a different ways to bring in money. We provide golf at the value the course is worth.

4. **Manager of Golf Operations Report-**

- **Financial Report-** Daily fees are about where they were two years ago, season passes are down from last year but cart passes are up. Cart rentals are lower than they were two years ago. People are doing more walking on the course since it hasn't been that hot this year. We are \$14,000 over last year's total which is great. The Swani Scramble took place this last week which had 128 golfers. Revenue should be good in September. The Hog Cabin playday is coming up as well as Woodward Governor which are two big playdays.
- **Marketing-** We are still working with WREX communications and the ad has been running for about a week. The billboard is still up in Loves Park. We are continuing our radio ad with Big Radio, and the ad with Rockford Register Star. More ads will come in September about fall pricing.
- **Special Projects-** Nothing at this time. Talked to Gary Gard who has now taken over the sign advertisements. We are working on irrigation as well as getting one or two gold tees built soon. We are going to start losing help in these next couple weeks. College students are going back to school.

5. **Director's Report-** Handed out the highlight of next year's fees again. Everything is in the ballpark of most of the competition and often still lower prices. Everything in yellow is the same fee as in 2014. Highlighted in orange are new increased fees for 2014 in comparison to 2014.

6. **Concessionaire report- Dan and Dede-** Nothing major to report. The health inspector was in and they scored us a 95/100. We've been getting questions about being open through winter but aren't sure yet. Playdays have been great. Are also losing some extra help. Will definitely be coming back next year. Didn't really know what to expect this year but it's better than expected. Mark says they have done a great job so far.

7. **Comments by committee members**

Ida Lenz- Enjoys living out by the golf course and enjoys golfing out there.

Bill Howard- Asked Noah what can we do to get more young people out to play golf. Noah suggested instead of charging \$9 for 9 holes and \$10 for 18 just charge \$6 instead since there are less holes to play. Also are the trees being cut down going to be charged to the golf course? No. The tree crew will cut them down.

Noah Scharmer- None

Ed Armstrong- Asked about the marking of pathways. Mark can get a stencil made. It won't be this year but maybe next year.

Harry Wiersgalla- Talked about offering a price for people who don't have much money. The golf course is a gem. Brian suggests that the price of the golf course is made up in comparison to other courses and that the price of golf is normally based on the quality of the course.

Ida Lenz made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Bill Howard. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Travia Foy