

***Golf Advisory Board  
Kearney, Nebraska  
October 15, 2013  
6:00 p.m.***

A meeting of the Golf Advisory Board of the City of Kearney, Nebraska, was convened in an open and public session at 6:00 p.m. on October 15, 2013, at the Park & Recreation Office Conference Room, 2005 1st Avenue, Kearney NE 68847. Present were: Board Members Ken Nikels, Kim Smith, and Pam Pearson. Absent: Tim Highbanks, Don Johnson, Nick Erdman. City Staff present was Scott Hayden, Park & Recreation Director; Dave James, Golf Services Manager; Dan Knipping, Golf Superintendent; and Robyn Bowman, Recording Secretary.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Kearney Hub, the designated method for giving notice, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes. Advance notice of the meeting was also given to the Chairman and Board Members of the Golf Advisory Board. Availability of the Agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Golf Advisory Board. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Vice-Chairman Nikels announced that in accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for review and is posted towards the back of the room.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Smith, seconded by Pearson, that the minutes of the Golf Advisory Board meeting held on May 13, 2013 be approved. All those present voted Aye. Nay: None. Absent: Highbanks, Johnson, Erdman. Motion carried.

**GOLF SERVICES REPORT**

Golf Course Manager James started the report telling the board that the fund balance ending 9/30/13 was \$77,779 to the good. The Board reviewed the Fiscal Year Revenue and Rounds Report provided James. The reports showed the total revenue and rounds for the past 10-years. The 10-year revenue average was \$874,821.10 with an average of 31,041.06 rounds played. Total rounds played for the 2012/13 fiscal year was 28,797. Also reviewed, was a 5-year report for MHGC Punch Cards and Season Passes sold. The report showed an increase in 2013 by an approximately 20 more green fee punch cards purchased over prior years, and the cart punch card (275 average) and season passes (270 average) averaging about the same over the past five years.

It was noted that outing/tournament play was down by 462 rounds which equals approximately \$20,000. James stated that competition between area golf courses have played a part in the loss of rounds, as well as weather. Play the West package was down by 81 rounds this year.

The board members discussed ideas on how to market the golf course to get more people playing at Meadowlark. The suggestion of a Fall League and structuring the fee schedule for tournaments on the number of players were discussed. James said a Fall League would be difficult to conduct due to the existing summer league running late in September and losing sunlight earlier in the fall. Charging fees according to the number of players in a tournament could possibly interest smaller tournaments to come to Meadowlark, as well as generate more income for larger ones. Staff will investigate both of these ideas.

**FEE PROPOSAL 2015**

The board reviewed a proposal to adjust the fees for 2015. The adjustments included a new 5 and 7 day Elite Pass, a 5% increase for Season Passes, a \$2.00 increase on 18 hole fees, as well as adjustments to some other fees. The board members present decided to wait until the January meeting to move on the fee adjustments.

**GOLF MAINTENANCE REPORT**

The maintenance staff has had to replace cart paths on #2 and #10 due to washouts. Approximately 150 feet of cart paths had to be replaced. Upcoming projects include: leveling tee on #15, red tee on #2, red and gold on #5 and black on #11, bunker work, upkeep on equipment and routine fall maintenance to the course.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**

Director Hayden reviewed plans for the proposed new maintenance building. The plans showed the new building site would be across the parking area to the east of the existing building. It was reported that the existing maintenance shop continues to sink and is unsafe. Staff is hoping to be able to keep the existing building for equipment storage, with bids currently being sought for footings to stabilize the sinking of the building. Brundgardt Engineering is working on the design for the new building. Staff is currently waiting for cost estimates before moving forward. Plans are for restrooms to be on the east side of the building for golfers to access. Director Hayden stated that it would probably be spring before construction would begin.

After discussing the time of when the golf board met, Nickels motioned to move the time of the meeting to 5:30 p.m. instead of 6:00 p.m. Pearson seconded the motion. All those present voted Aye. Nay: None. Absent: Hughbanks, Johnson, Erdman. Motion carried.

**ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn was made by Smith, seconded by Pearson. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. All those present voted Aye. Nay: None. Absent: Absent: Hughbanks, Johnson, Erdman. Motion carried.

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**ROBYN BOWMAN**  
**RECORDING SECRETARY**