

***Golf Advisory Board  
Kearney, Nebraska  
November 21, 2016  
5:30 p.m.***

A meeting of the Golf Advisory Board of the City of Kearney, Nebraska, was convened in an open and public session at 5:30 p.m. on November 21, 2016 at the Meadowlark Hills Golf Course, 3300 30th Avenue, Kearney NE 68847. Present were: Board members: Chairman Ken Nikels, Vice-Chairman Nick Erdman, Gary Chramosta, Chet Graham, Pam Pearson and Jim Van Amburg. City Staff present; Dave James, Golf Services Manager; Dan Knipping, Golf Superintendent; Scott Bruha, Assistant Golf Services Manager, Rex Rodehorst, Assistant Golf Superintendent, Scott Hayden, Director of Park & Recreation.

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**

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 Van Amburg seconded by Chramosta, that the minutes of the Golf Advisory Board meeting held on August 15, 2016, be approved. All those present voted Aye. Nay: None. Absent: None.

**GOLF COURSE MANAGER REPORT**

Dave James, Golf Course Manager, reviewed several year-end reports. The first was a FY16 Cash Flow Summary that showed the Budget, Estimate and Actuals. James stated that spending capital items (pump station and Cart lease) and Mother Nature's cool & rainy spring, five league rainouts and one tourney rain out did not help cash flow. We ended up \$25,000 short of our estimate and ended the year with 28,380 rounds played. Other reports and grafts with five and ten year averages on revenues and rounds. The notable shortfall was punch cards and season passes being lower than the past years. James stated that people have limited discretionary income therefore they pick and choose times to play. Rounds were just short of last years by 716 and 545 rounds below the five year average. James said the course had a total of 320 Play the West rounds which is about a 3% decrease.

Marketing the course is a top priority. We use facebook, webpage, email and outside vendors for marketing. James has asked the board to please email him with ideas to post on facebook as his goal is to post something 4 out of 7 days a week. Erdman stated pictures are good and keep doing what we do.

**LEAGUE REPORT**

Scott Bruha, Assistant Golf Course Manager, reviewed the year of Business and Men's League. Bruha stated the Men's League was full with 120 players and Business League was 3 teams shy consisting of 132 players. Overall it was a good year with minimal no shows (92), but we did have to cancel 5 total league nights due to storms which is on average \$2,500 per night. One factor of the business league not filling up is we see a decline in guys playing in both

leagues due to other family activities like soccer, baseball and other sports as well as the cost involved each week. We will investigate different avenues of food and beverage service before, during and following league as we had a decline in food and beverage following league. Pearson stated that it would be nice to have call ahead ordering to see if that would help generate revenue and maybe adding ham and cheese on the beverage carts.

### **GOLF MAINTENANCE REPORT**

Knipping started the report mentioning that the greens came out of dormancy very good this past spring. Projects completed consist of new cart path on hole 15, new fence around the parking lot, landscaping in the parking lot islands, and a well that was our big purchase. Fall fertilizer was just applied and now with the warm temps and rain we have had good growth. We just drained our irrigation system which take 10-12 hours as we have 1,400 heads. Upcoming projects consists of repairing hole eight cart path along the canal, extending hole 6 cart path east of tee boxes, planting new trees around course where dead trees were removed and spraying roundup around bunker face edges. We are planning to keep sanding greens as the winter arrives and we will perform this all winter.

### **REPORTS/COMMENTS**

No comments were made.

### **ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn to golf was made Pearson, and seconded by Erdman. All those present voted Aye. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

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**DAVID JAMES**  
**GOLF COURSE MANAGER**