

MINUTES

Beaver Meadow Golf Advisory Committee Meeting August 8, 2019

In Attendance: Chris Mulleavey (Chair), Jim Marshall, Bob Norton, Mark Coen, Linda Mattlage, Bob Whatmough, Brian LeBrun, Phil Davis, and Bernard “Sid” Chase.

Absent: Jennifer Kretovic, Dick Holden, Roger Jobin, and Fran Hunt.

The meeting was called to order and Bob Whatmough was welcomed to the committee.

- 1) **Public Input:** There was no public input.
- 2) **Approval of June 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes:** Chris Mulleavey asked if there was a motion to approve the draft minutes. Bob Norton motioned, and Linda Mattlage seconded, to approve the June 13, 2019 minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- 3) **Committee Membership and Appointments:** Sid Chase distributed the committee roster provided by the City Clerk, which shows expired and upcoming expirations of Council appointments to the committee. Sid will provide committee members with the City Clerk’s contact information, and asked them to contact her with their intentions to continue or not.
- 4) **Course Update:**

Financials:

- Deputy City Manager Brian LeBrun provided preliminary financials for FY 2019. There are some positive results for revenue, as membership and Pro Shop sales are up. However, daily fees, green fees, and cart and range fees are down. Reduced revenue for daily fees is mostly a result of poor weather in the fall and spring of 2019. A robust schedule of outing events helps offset some effects of the poor weather.
- Expenses are up for the cost of goods and other unanticipated expenses, as well as for re-sodding of tees, clubhouse repairs, and expenses for the new event tent. A report will be sent to City Council in the fall for forgiveness of overhead expenses and other shortfalls to balance the budget for the year.

Grounds:

- Tees and fairways have responded well to fertilization.
- Sodded tees are getting stronger and holding up better to play.
- Aeration of weaker tees (9, 15, and 17) has begun, but not much growth yet.
- Greens have held up well through the extended heat of the summer.
- Staff solid tined all greens a few weeks ago, commonly called venting when done in the heat of summer. This improves water and gas exchange in the soil, improving turf health with minimal disruption to play.
- During the week of 8/12 or 8/19, depending on weather, staff will core aerate using “quad tines”. Quad tining uses smaller diameter tines but twice as many of them. This timing allows us to complete the process prior to summer staff leaving. It will also allow for a quicker recovery with favorable growing weather.

- Staff has begun soliciting quotes for the 9th hole improvements. Stumps in the work area still need to be removed.
- Staff has reached out to the irrigation engineer and is awaiting a price from last year's installer. If the price is favorable, we will contract with NMP again. If not, we will put out an RFP for installation. Holes 11, 12, 13, and the last bit of Hole 14, are scheduled to be done.

Pro Shop:

- Pro Shop sales are up, which is the result of a strong Pro Shop staff providing excellent customer service.
 - Matt Levins is doing an excellent job with fittings and lessons.
 - Member Guest was well attended with positive feedback.
 - Fall special has been advertised.
 - ACH program is ready to go.
 - Two new members to date for 2020.
 - Pace of play is improving.
 - Dynamic pricing has shown positive results, especially early weekend times.
 - The social media campaign is receiving positive feedback, particularly Ben Lanman's effort for Club Championship.
 - BMGC recently hosted the NHGA Junior Championship. This event, along with strong Junior Membership sales and our PGA Junior League entry, have resulted in greatly increased junior play at the course. Linda Matlage commented that she has never seen so many Juniors playing at BMGC.
- 5) **Old Business:** The Committee discussed the 9th hole improvements with fencing and vegetation to screen the maintenance barn. The City Planner has provided a visual with burgundy fencing and sample photos of appropriate plants. Burgundy, brown and green colored fencing was discussed. The group decided on brown by consensus.
 - 6) **New Business:** Mark Coen informed the committee that he brought to City Council the idea of hiring an agronomist to look at the course and its trees in particular. The City spent \$17,000 to sod tees without fixing the underlying problem, excessive trees and shade around trees. Fairways and other turf are impacted as well. It is on the agenda for the September 9th City Council meeting.
 - 7) **Adjournment:** Linda Matlage excused herself from the meeting and, as a result, the meeting was adjourned due to the lack of a quorum.
 - 8) **Next Meeting:** Thursday, September 12th, at 8:00 AM, at BMGC Clubhouse.