

## GOLF BOARD MEETING

March 14, 2021

### Minutes

The meeting is open to the public. This meeting will be at the Clubhouse.

**5:30 PM - Call to order by Chairman Bartlett, Hillsview Clubhouse.**

- **Determination of quorum to conduct business, Bartlett X Keeton      
Booth X Hight X Conzemius X Getz X Bothun X  
Hayn X Steiner X Tipton X Johnson**

- **Minutes of the December 6, mtg, motion to approve.**

Conzemius moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Hight.

- **Any additions to the agenda, motion to approve.**

Conzemius moves to approve the agenda, seconded by Hight.

### **Staff Reports**

#### **Carin Hayn, PGA professional, clubhouse manager**

The calendar for the course is pretty much set. We will be hosting an ESD tournament for both girls and boys, on May 24<sup>th</sup> and September 24<sup>th</sup>. The state championship is the two-woman championship on July 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. The dessert classic is August 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. I have been in contact with our Yamaha cart dealer. We received three bids from EZ-Go, Yamaha, and Club Cart. Yamaha was by far the best deal and so I went to the commission to get approval to go ahead with that. We decided after quite a bit of discussion to go with white. We also included two utility vehicles that the superintendent and senior groundskeeper needed at the time for golf course maintenance in the lease. The lease is only an 8% increase over our current lease so we were pleased with that. We have new countertops, lights, and hardware in each of the restrooms replaced by Bryan and Jordan over the winter months. The grease trap was replaced by Olsen Plumbing in the kitchen. The carpet was cleaned last week. I did have a request from the high school athletic association to host the girl's state tournament in 2024. We were supposed to host the 2020 tournament which never took place due to COVID.

#### **Jordan Steiner, Sr. Golf Course Groundskeeper**

We are currently without a superintendent since mid-February with Bryan's promotion but we are getting by. We have tank-watered each green with 500 gallons of water 7 times since December. We will be watering greens again the entire week because it has been open and dry all winter. We have a significant irrigation upgrade right now and we are currently getting decoders replaced which is required for automatic operation from the central computer. Keith Ehnes retired after 20 years of service at Hillsview in February. Keith Stanek with 18 years of experience at the Park department was hired as the new golf course mechanic. Keith just got done changing all of the oil and performing maintenance on the golf cart fleet of 50 carts. We just received all of our chemicals for the 2022 season and we are now waiting on a few accessories to arrive. Bartlett- Do we have the new mowers yet?

Steiner- Yes, we have gotten the two new greens mowers and a new fairway mower. We are waiting on the delivery of two heavy-duty utility carts and a sandpro bunker rake.

## **Bryan Tipton CGCS, Director**

After Tom Farnsworth retired in January I applied for the position of Parks and Recreation Director. It was on February 14<sup>th</sup> that I was notified I had been selected for the position. I started the new position at City Hall on February 16<sup>th</sup>. We have done a lot of work here at the golf course and I continue to provide assistance and oversee the operation as the Director. My new position oversees Pierre's Parks which includes golf, cemetery, and parks/athletic fields along with the recreation department which includes the aquatic center, outdoor pool, and summer recreation. The golf superintendent position has been advertised and we will start interviews soon.

In regards to our equipment lease, I am glad we ordered early. Golf courses that put in orders shortly after our order are not getting their equipment until 2023/2024. The lease package was very critical and includes the irrigation update from Sitepro to Lynx. The Sitepro program and hardware are over 20 years old and soon will not be supported. The new Lynx software and hardware will give us better control of the irrigation and also allow us to add more stations/irrigation heads which we could not do with Sitepro. We are using the same wire in the ground but replacing all of the decoders that receive the signal from the central computer and control the operation of the irrigation heads.

Bartlett- Could you touch on an opening date or what you need to happen before the opening?

Tipton- To open we need the irrigation system charged up and we like the soil to reach 45 degrees. Once the frost is out of the soil we begin filling the irrigation lines for the season. This year is different because we are still working on updating the irrigation controls. We haven't talked too much about it but once we charge up the irrigation we can only water manually until all of the decoders are replaced to resume automatic operations. So it is based on the weather and we would like to see the turf break dormancy to handle the traffic.

Hayn- The earliest we have opened since I have been here was March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Hayn- So if the forecast holds, what is the best-case scenario?

Tipton- It all depends on starting up the irrigation and favorable weather. Opening by March 28<sup>th</sup> is our goal.

Bartlett- Yes, it is very dry out there so hopefully either you get some rain or get the irrigation system going.

Tipton- Yes, it is crunchy out there but part of that is also because it is still freezing at night and we have been without snow cover almost the entire winter.

Bartlett- Are you worried about any winter kill on the greens?

Tipton- Yes, it is our main concern with open winters and very little moisture. We went to the South Dakota Golf Course Superintendents conference last week and it was clear everyone is struggling with the drought. It is very critical to water during the winter when the weather is above freezing. It didn't matter if it was a Saturday or a Sunday we watered when the conditions were above freezing. On a positive note, it was a good year to be part of the winter study with the University of Minnesota. We had monitoring equipment in one of the greens and hopefully, we can learn more about the factors that influence winter desiccation.

## **Old Business**

1. Report on operations/maintenance work by Steiner
2. Report by Hayn – schedule, Cart fleet
3. Other?

## **New Business**

1. Report from HLGA – Booth  
The initial meeting is tomorrow night (3/15). We have all of our dates for Carin.
2. Report from OMGA – Conzemius  
We authorized a super bowl raffle and we raised \$1,600. We are going to be directing that to youth golf for boys and girls in the city.
3. Opening update
4. Cart path project  
Tipton- In December, we met to discuss the possibility of hard surface golf cart paths. We talked about the benefits of concrete vs. asphalt. The concrete has fewer maintenance costs and the overall life of it. I am working on a plan to phase the project out, possibly nine holes per year. Hillsview has 4.3 miles of the cart path. Approximately 2 miles per nine holes. The placement of the cart paths might need to be adjusted from current locations on a few holes to improve playability (i.e. areas that cross fairways). We are looking at keeping them at 8 feet wide for passing and equipment.
5. Other?

Dialogue as time permits.

**6:30 PM – Adjourn** – moved by Hight, Seconded by Booth.

**The next Golf Board meeting is April 4, at the clubhouse**