

**Lincoln Municipal Golf Committee Meeting**  
Minutes from March 28, 2019  
Woods Park Place – 3131 'O' Street, Suite 300  
Large Conference Room

**Members Present:**

Brad Brandt, Sherrie Nelson, Bill Allen, Jason Hutchison, Matt Herman, Karen Flowers, Alice Skultety, Mike Calvert, Dann Husmann.

**Staff Present:**

Wade Foreman, Lynn Johnson, Scott Philippi, Kyle Oakley, Casey Crittenden, Joe Canny.

**Call to Order:**

12:00 p.m.

**Approval of February Minutes:**

Unanimous approval of February Minutes.

**Staff Reports:**

Wade reported the golf courses were opened on March 15<sup>th</sup> along with the driving ranges. Weather pending Wade predicts approximately 4,000 rounds being played in March. Rounds were down 27% in February. There has been a lot of membership renewals and sales along with season passes so far since opening late March. The irrigation system will be fired up in the next week or so to assess what may be in need of repair.

It was confirmed Peg, Casey's new friend will be at the Holmes Open House.

Wade also reported the Ash tree removal is still scheduled for Mahoney and Holmes courses this spring.

Wade and Casey discussed they are having a harder time filling seasonal positions for various reasons.

Some of the "Get Golf Ready" Learning Adult Classes were pushed back due to weather. As of now most of the classes have started with some still to start in April/May.

Capital Improvement Update: Security cameras are up and operational. There have been no more golf cart thefts but will be ready to video next time.

The Lincoln City Golf Open House is next Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The weather is supposed to be in the 60's.

The Jim Ager Golf Course won the Nebraska PGA Facility of the Year Award. Jim Ager is the first municipal course to win this award which started in the 1980's.

Wade advised that every course has a 2019 price brochure available along with pricing online.

**Golf Report:**

There was not much to report for rounds in February with all of the snow. Still behind in revenues for the fiscal year due to poor weather in fall and spring.

**Rounds Report:**

There should be about 4,000 rounds in March. The average the last few years past have had approximately 7,500.

**Financial Report:**

Financial report reflects what the rounds and weather were stated earlier.

Sherrie asked if there is some concern regarding revenue catching up due to the poor weather that should be addressed. Scott Philippi did verify it may be difficult to catch up this year. Lynn shared some suggestions that will help keep costs down, less hiring and irrigation. Lynn discussed a possibility of borrowing against the CIP if operations has a shortfall at year end. Raising rates temporarily was up for discussion again. Lynn suggested an additional 25 cents per round for a determined amount of time or keep as normal pricing. It was also brought up

by Jason that the general public don't understand that Golf Department is an enterprise fund and uses no tax dollars from general fund. Lynn suggested having this be a talking point at the Open House to help educate the public. Number crunching will need to be done to see what type of rate increase will be needed to cover a potential loss of \$150,000-\$180,000. Many ideas were discussed with whatever decided must and will be transparent. Lynn did some quick math and figured \$1.25 to \$1.75 per round to make up the deficit. This is a revenue and expenditure challenge. Everyone agrees that they want the courses to continue to stay at current quality. Again, it was suggested this be a big talking point at the Golf Open House.

Sherrie wants to approach the new mayor regarding Ager, especially after winning the Award with agreement from the group.

Matt shared the findings of reducing winter rates from the request of Mike Calvert. There is no benefit to decreasing rates in the winter which the Fees subcommittee discussed and all agreed with. Different pricing strategies were discussed regarding flexibility. Mike was thanked for bringing the research to the committee's attention.

#### **L.M.G.A.:**

Mike stated the L.M.G.A. will be participating in the Holmes Open House. Mike shared their first event is at Highlands on April 28<sup>th</sup>. The event is on the website and has online registration.

#### **Women's League:**

Alice shared the Women's League is also participating in the Holmes Open House. Their first meeting is Saturday morning. The Spring Fling will be late April. Alice also is planning on working with Joe at Ager to capture some of the women golfers who are beginning to play to help expand their membership.

#### **Senior Men's League:**

Bill confirmed the Senior Men's League will also be at the Holmes Open House. They had their annual organizational meeting yesterday at the Auld Pavilion. There were approximately 150-200 in attendance, the normal. The final enrollment will be nailed down in a few weeks. Bill is certain the membership number will be in the 400's. Bill thanked Wade and Casey for participating. Registration for team play will close April 15<sup>th</sup>. Substitute registration will be open all season. Bill stated that approximately 25% of the league are substitutes. On average 36% of the 14 weeks of league are played by substitutes. The first Wednesday in May will be the start date for league play.

#### **Old Business:**

Wade thanked all of the organizations for participating and assisting in the Holmes Open House. Jason said the hops are in and they are going to start brewing soon. The beer has not been named yet. "Mulligan" was suggested. Jason will let everyone know when the first batch is ready for a tasting.

The Highlands Clubhouse name change has been approved and will be officially named the "Clancy Woolman Clubhouse at Highlands Golf Course". Wade said it should take place with a reception late April. The Mayor is planning on being in attendance and speak along with people who Clancy may want to be attendance. Wade will announce the date and time as soon as it is confirmed.

#### **Adjourn:**

12:50 p.m.