Lincoln Municipal Golf Advisory Committee meeting minutes

Location:	Parks & Recreation Administration Office, 3131 O Street, Third Floor
Date:	Thursday, April 24, 2025
Time:	12:00 p.m.
Attendees:	Members Present: Mike Calvert, Joe Canney, Matt Herman, Todd Johnson, Casey Karges, Jennifer Kirkland, Becky Moyer, Sherrie Nelson, Tammy Poe
	Members Absent: Greg Bauer, Jim Danson
	Members of the Public Present: Cory Hoagstrom - LMGA
	Staff Members Present: Maggie Stuckey-Ross, Wade Forman, Casey Crittenden, Scott Carlson, Tim Rowland, Denis Vontz, Pam Hoffman

Agenda items

1. Call to Order: Sherry Nelson called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

   Approval of previous minutes: Minutes approved by roll call with no changes. Motion to approve: Matt Herman, seconded by Mike Calvert.

2. Public Comment: None.

3. Review of Reports:

   Monthly Report: Maintenance – The Maintenance team has been hard at work this winter and early spring, accomplishing a range of essential tasks to improve the courses for the upcoming season. Prioritizing equipment maintenance, the team serviced and repaired mowers, rebuilt and sharpened mower reels, and performed routine oil and grease maintenance. Tree care was also a focus, with selective removal of compromised or dead trees and stumps to enhance course aesthetics and safety. Staff took continuing education courses this winter. Other notable tasks included:
   - Relocating fairway/yardage markers to the side of each fairway for better visibility and consistency.
   - Backfilling and sodding around the eastside lawn area of the Pioneer clubhouse to improve the landscape.
   - Performing golf cart maintenance to ensure all carts are in excellent working condition.

- Planting new trees at the #5 rough at Pioneer and the #16 rough at Holmes to enhance the course's natural beauty.
- Creating and installing "NO CART" signs for the shortcut areas in the native grasses at Highlands.
- Replacing several outdated irrigation heads at Mahoney to improve watering efficiency.
- Rebuilding the left greenside bunker on hole #3 at Holmes and adding a new collar.
- Reshaping the front left approach on hole #8 at Holmes to enhance drainage and improve playability.

Monthly rounds: March brought a slight uptick in temperatures, with average highs around 50 degrees and lows near 30 degrees. However, the continued cool conditions throughout March 2025, along with the previous month's weather, kept golf courses largely unsuitable for play. In contrast, March 2024 had more favorable weather for golf with warmer temperatures. Year-to-date golf rounds total 73,966, slightly trailing last fiscal year's total of 75,701 through March. Despite this, overall YTD rounds remain strong and above target. Looking ahead, over 70$ of the budgeted golf rounds are expected to occur from April through August. Spring aerification of the greens is underway this month: Pioneers – April 7th & 8th; Mahoney – April 14th & 15th; Holmes – April 21st & 22nd; Highlands – April 28th & 29th. These dates will help ensure the greens are in top condition for the season ahead. Holmes irrigation system is the next one that will be worked on, starting sometime in the fall.

Financial/CIP: March did well with a profit of $31,000. Financials are consistent with last year's but a bit better. Transfer from fiscal year 2022/2023 is $757,662. Cart leases are now 4 years instead of the previous 5 year leases. More play and use are harder on the carts. Fund 465 (CIP) - $805,469* will be used for irrigation systems. Golf operations fund 510 is at $2.1 million. Capital Improvement Fund 515 is $482,469.00.

4. Golf Organizations Updates:

   A. Lincoln Municipal Golf Association: Presented by Mike Calvert. Current member count is 246. 1st event is a 2 man scramble on April 26th at Highlands. Registration for match play has started, 33 registrations so far. Exploring playing a group from Crete for a 2 day event.

   B. Lincoln Women's Municipal Golf Association: Presented by Becky Moyer. 142 members, including 18 new members. Spring kickoff was at Holmes on March 22nd. 39 participants and because of change with tee time reservations, the start time was at 9am and they weren't done until 4pm. First event is April 19th at Highlands. Will have afternoon tee times on Thursdays at Mahoney now, as well as some evening times at 5:30 or 6:00.

   C. Lincoln Senior Golf League: Kickoff is in a few weeks. Will be playing on Wednesdays/Thursdays (2 courses per day).

5. Old Business: None.

6. *New Business: Thank you to Dann Husmann and Jason Hutchison for serving on the LMGAC.

   The Policy Subcommittee (Sherrie Nelson, Tammy Poe, Todd Johnson, and Tim Danson) met over the winter to address slow play at the golf courses. They identified that that the increasing number of golf rounds and feedback from the customer surveys are showing that slow play is

becoming more of an issue, especially during the busy months, specifically Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Subcommittee Recommendations:

1. Expand the Volunteer Marshal Program to include a Golf Starter
    a. Recruit more volunteers for the program
    b. Ensure consistent scheduling of a starter and a marshal during peak times.
    c. Golf professionals will train the volunteers and give them the authority to address slow play on the course.
    d. The starter will communicate with each group about the importance of maintaining a good pace of play.
2. Create Slow Play Information/Materials
    a. Develop flyers with tips on improving pace of play.
    b. Email customer database helpful tips on pace once a month.
3. Increase Proactivity from Golf Professional Staff Regarding Slow Play
    a. Announce the expected pace of play (i.e. 2 hours and 15 minutes per 9 holes) periodically over the loudspeaker during the busy time frames.
    b. Golf staff monitor group progress, especially at the turn, and intervene if necessary to maintain pace.
    c. Golf staff should be trained to act as a marshal on the course if incidents arise when a regular marshal or starter is not available.
4. Coordinate with League Coordinators on Pace of Play
    a. Contact league coordinators to make them aware of the pace of paly and follow up with coordinators if issues arise during season.
    b. If leagues use tee times, work with coordinators to ensure players tee off on time and consider having the coordinator act as a starter to help with timely departures. Coordinator would tee off last.
5. Follow up in Fall with a meeting – Subcommittee/Pros.

2025 Subcommittees:

Fees:	Matt Herman, Casey Karges, Becky Moyer, Greg Bauer
Policy:	Sherrie Nelson, Todd Johnson, Jim Danson, Tammy Poe
Facilities (CIP):	Joe Canney, Jennifer Kirkland, Mike Calvert

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Pam Hoffman, Office Specialist.

Next meeting Thursday, May 22, 2025