



## **WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT**

### **Golf Operations Committee Meeting Minutes**

*Monday, March 22, 2021*

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom*

#### **Present**

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Commissioners/Committee: Chair Amy Wolfe, Julie Goebel, Mike Murdock

Staff: Steve Wilson, Adam Kwiatkoski, Nick Marfise, Jaime Locke, Sheila Foy, Johnathan Colton, Nick Ruschmann

Visitors: Sue Salay, Tim Boudos, Tim Terchek, Andrew Levy, Kara Kosloskus, Allison Frazier, Mike Doyle, Patrick Duffy, Pamela Lurie

#### **Absent**

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None

#### **I. Meeting Called to Order**

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Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes**

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##### **A. February 22, 2021 Golf Operations Committee Meeting**

Commissioner Goebel moved and Commissioner Murdock seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2021 Golf Operations Committee meeting.

By a roll call vote, voting Yes, Commissioners: Goebel, Murdock and Wolfe. Voting No, none. *Absent*, none; **motion carried**.

#### **III. Communications and Correspondence**

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Commissioner Wolfe noted that there were no communications in the packet and Commissioner Goebel noted that some emails were received after the packet had been posted online related to the item under Unfinished Business and noted they would be included in a future packet.

#### **IV. Public Comment/Recognition of Visitors**

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The Attendance Record will become part of the permanent record.

Tim Boudos – Asked how long it would take to get the course in playable condition for this season. Director Wilson said that is a question we are not ready to answer but working on how a plan over the next couple days.

Sue Salay – She spoke about the passing of Phyllis Cosserack who was a long time, very involved, Commissioner for the Wilmette Park District. She served for decades and was president multiple times. She had been nominated for awards by the IAPD and served as their president at one point. Director Wilson echoed her sentiments and thanked Ms. Salay for her comments.

Patrick Duffy – Said he feels that there is a great staff at the golf course, and with the issues with the soft ground in spring, would it make sense to simply choose a date in advance to end the golf season to allow for the project to resume where the work can complete prior to the next season.

Tim Terchek – Asked if the contractor had prior golf course experience, and staff was not able to answer.

## **V. Manager Reports**

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### **Adam Kwiatkoski (Golf General Manager) reported on the following:**

- Nick Ruschmann has started his employment as the Assistant Golf Superintendent
- Tomorrow begins camp registration for the District including golf
- Driving range has been busy and revenue is strong because of it
- As for opening the course, the plan is to get open in the next couple weeks despite the golf cart path project. The grass has not fully come to life, so we would not have been open at this point despite the project.
- Staff working on preseason work such as aerification and top dressing.
- Membership sales are ahead of 2019 totals
- Permanent Tee Time Lottery will be April 20, 2021

### **Nick Marfise (Golf Course Superintendent) reported on the following:**

- Since last month, the snow has melted and the course is starting to come to life with no material damage
- The new drainage has worked well through all the melting and rain
- The fairway, greens, and rough are starting to “green up”
- Inside winter maintenance has wrapped up including refurbishing on-course amenities and the off season maintenance of all equipment
- Before the opening of the course to golfers, bunkers will be cleaned up, on-course amenities will be put out, cups will be placed in greens
- Showed slides and described the cart path work that took place in Spring as well as some of the damage that was incurred due to soft soil conditions exacerbated by snow and rain later in the day of the first day of work

## **VI. New Business**

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### **A. Golf Financials through February 28, 2020**

Director Wilson and Adam walked the committee through the financials that are in line with expectations and show very little activity as the season has not begun. Staff highlighted that the fact that membership sales are stronger at this point in the year than is typical, while program fees are lagging due to registration being later in the year than normal.

## **VII. Unfinished Business**

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### **A. Golf Cart Path Project Update**

Director Wilson reiterated the slow process made last fall and over the winter.

Explained that when work began this fall, due to the soft ground conditions, more damage was incurred than staff was comfortable with. Staff determined that the contractor would not be able to complete the work in a manner that would leave the course in a good enough condition for the summer, and therefore have worked with the contractor to suspend further work, collaborate on restoring the impact made to date, and resume work at some point in the fall after the golf season has largely taken place.

Commissioner Wolfe asked if we would keep making payments to the contractor and Director Wilson said we would only pay for work completed to date, nothing towards future work. Commissioner Murdock commented that he walked the tenth fairway and said that from what he saw the decision makes a lot of sense to him. Commissioner Goebel commented that moving to fall is a good idea and that if we get great fall weather, we may be forced to make more tough decisions.

#### **VIII. Next Meeting**

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The next meeting of the Golf Operations Committee is scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2021.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

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There being no further discussion, Commissioner      moved and Commissioner seconded a motion to adjourn the Golf Operations Committee meeting at 7:06 p.m.

By a roll call vote, voting Yes, Commissioners: Goebel, Murdock and Wolfe. Voting *No*, none. *Absent*, None; **motion carried.**

Minutes Approved on: April 26, 2021