



## WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT Golf Operations Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 26, 2020

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, Sheila Foy, Libby Baker

Visitors: Sue Salay, Pamela Lurie

### Absent

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None

### I. Meeting Called to Order

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Meeting called to order at 6:31 p.m.

### II. Communications and Correspondence

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None

### III. Public Comment/Recognition of Visitors

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The Attendance Record will become part of the permanent record.

### IV. Manager Reports

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

- Course receive a lot of rain in October
- Staff is busy mulching, vacuuming and blowing leaves
- Greens aerification has been postponed until spring to allow for additional playing time and capture additional revenue by not closing down the course
- Grass growth is slowing down
- Ongoing maintenance
  - Dethatching fairways
  - Sand top-dressing
  - Drainage improvements

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

- 59% over prior year through September 1
- October already double that of October 2019

### V. New Business

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#### **A. Proposed FY 2021 Golf Budget Review**

Adam began the discussion noting it has been a financially successful year. He commended the committee for allowing staff to work on the course while it was closed, and when the course was able to open, everything was ready.

Adam commented on the positive changes and improvements made to the course and operations. Driving range revenue is up 42% from last year. 37,749 rounds have been played to date, up 32% from last year.

In response to a question from Commissioner Murdock, Adam commented that staff found a way to accommodate members and not alienate them.

Adam noted that A La Carte's lease is due to expire. Given the pandemic, staff feels it would be appropriate to extend the lease for one year, and then re-evaluate.

Commissioner Goebel inquired about adding a tent to facilitate additional opportunities for outdoor events, and challenged staff to look at retail sales to find ways to generate additional revenue.

2021 budget highlights include:

- Wages are up from due to a new employee and part-time staff wages paid preparing the course during the closure
- Salaries are frozen
- Membership fees will increase 3%
- Greens fees will increase \$1 for residents
- The budget reflects having a cart path
- Projected surplus for 2020 is \$354,000

Director Wilson explained that the next step is to make the capital transfers. He noted that the projected surplus gives golf the opportunity to make a transfer. He said a 2021 capital transfer could also be added, or the money could be set aside for debt repayment.

Commissioner Wolfe asked about generating revenue around cross country skiing. Staff will explore opportunities.

**VI. Unfinished Business**

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None

**VII. Adjournment**

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There being no further discussion, Commissioner Murdock moved and Commissioner Goebel seconded a motion to adjourn the Golf Operations Committee meeting at 7:20 p.m.

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Committee Chair

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Director

Minutes Approved on \_\_\_\_\_