



## MINUTES

### GOLF COURSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Aurora Hills Golf Course Clubhouse

July 17, 2019

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Laurie Steenrod, Richard Johnson, Sandee Campbell, Jesse Stine, Dan Daly, Jason Schneider, Omar Montgomery

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Scott Farrell, Adam Lyle, Cory Orrel, Matt Stephens

**STAFF ATTENDING:** Doug McNeil, Michael Olsey, Karin Rivale, Suzie Jaquith, Cary Callihan, Kevin Kallas

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Laurie Steenrod, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:15 P.M.
- II. **CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS** – Laurie suggested a cake in celebration of Aurora Hills golf course turning 50 years be served at some of the Aurora Club championships if held at Aurora Hills. She suggested applying to Art in Public Places to install art at Aurora Hills golf course. Staff to follow up on application process. She shared absent member, Adam Lyle's comments that he thought the new fence on hole #10 at Aurora Hills turned out nicely. She had favorable remarks on the Meadow Hills practice bunker and the new #8 tee at Saddle Rock. She reported Saddle Rock golf course was re-rated and the results will be in soon.
- III. **PUBLIC INVITED TO SPEAK** – None.
- IV. **COMMITTEE REMARKS** -
  - Jason Schneider remarked he played the front nine at Springhill with friends from Denver. One of them expressed the reason he enjoys playing Springhill is not always having to make a tee-time reservation in advance and how well the pro shop knows their clientele.
  - Dan Daly had played Meadow Hills and Aurora Hills. He spoke with golfers who told him what a great value the Aurora courses are.
  - Sandee Campbell commented on the great shape of all courses even with the extreme weather conditions this season. She complimented a ranger at Aurora Hills who came around to offer water to her group.
- V. **STAFF UPDATES**-
  - Cindy Jones, Restaurant Operator of Tin Cup restaurants at Aurora Hills and Meadow Hills gave an overview.
  - Cary Callihan, Head Golf Professional at Aurora Hills, gave an update on pro shop activities. The course is in great condition. The Aurora Senior Amateur will take place at Aurora Hills on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Newly updated score cards have been ordered. Dynamic pricing on the weekends has been in place for about 7 weeks and is going well.

- Kevin Kallas, Superintendent at Aurora Hills, gave an update on maintenance activities. Staff have edged all bunkers and added sand to some. Installed a fence around the corner of the 10<sup>th</sup> fairway. Painted the back nine restrooms. The ‘bomb’ cyclone storm in spring damaged many tree and limbs that are still being removed. Aerated the new tee boxes. There are plans to improve the back area of the clubhouse by removing some trees, trimming bushes, installing a fence and adding new mulch. Rains early in the season have helped save on irrigation costs.
- Karin Rivale, Marketing Specialist, gave an update on marketing. Registration for the Big Person Little Person event at Springhill has 36 teams signed up so far. Re-ordered pro shop merchandise bags that have been redesigned. Creating a video for social media about the new #8 tee box at Saddle Rock golf course. Aurora Golf will have a booth at the Anschutz Medical Campus fair in September. This week’s Summer in the City event featured Golfzilla at Parklane park. A representative from First Tee was there to talk to families about funding opportunities they offer to youth to participate in junior golf programs.
- Doug McNeil, Manager of Golf, reported he responded to a complaint about mosquitos near Murphy Creek golf course. Over the years, a professional service has been treating course ponds with a larvicide. However, with the extra rains this season, it has created an explosion of mosquitos throughout the city. He is meeting with Aurora Water to see if there are options to fill the pond to help with the issue.
- Michael Osley, Golf Operations Superintendent, gave an update on maintenance operations at all courses. He has received much feedback on how well all course conditions are coming along. Saddle Rock staff are busy maintaining the course and finishing some projects such as work on #8 tee and new sod on the new tee on #11. Meadow Hills golf course is recruiting for a new mechanic.

VI. FINANCIAL REVIEW – Doug McNeil, Manager of Golf, gave a Rounds/Financial Report update. Doug reported there was some progress made in June. There were a few days of revenue at the end of the month that did not get posted to June due to accounting cutoff dates. This amounts to approximately \$150,000 that will be counted in July. Doug feels if things keep going the way they have been, July should prove to be favorable in making up some revenue.

VII. DISCUSSION -

- Doug reported work continues in partnership with Visit Aurora to build relationships with Gaylord of the Rockies. He and Leslie Core-Drevecky, Head Pro at Murphy Creek manned a table to promote Aurora Golf at the Visit Aurora networking reception at the Gaylord. He reported they received a lot of interest from hotel staff and meeting planners who attended the event. Murphy Creek will possibly host a golf event in September and invite local hotel staff and event planners to play the course.
- Doug reported work continues in creating a policy regarding disruptive customers.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS – None.

IX. GENERAL DISCUSSION –

- Sandee had a question if the new point of sale would be able to track rain checks. Doug replied that will depend on which vendor is chosen in the bid process or if it’s decided to upgrade software with the current vendor. He said most vendors do have trackable rain checks.

X. ADJOURNMENT -

- Omar Montgomery moved for adjournment and Sandee Campbell seconded the motion.

Minutes approved by: Laurie Steenrod  
Laurie Steenrod, Chairperson

Minutes prepared by: Suzie Jaquith  
Suzie Jaquith, Recording Secretary