



## MINUTES

### GOLF COURSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*WebEx Meeting*

*August 19, 2020*

MEMBERS PRESENT: Laurie Steenrod, Jesse Stine, Jason Schneider, Adam Lyle, Matt Stephens, Omar Montgomery, Corey Orrel, Doug Webb, Perry Jowsey, George Wasyluka

MEMBERS ABSENT: Richard Johnson

STAFF ATTENDING: Doug McNeil, Suzie Jaquith

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Laurie Steenrod, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:15 P.M.
- II. CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS – Laurie welcomed the newest members and shared her excitement to be meeting again. She remarked, that having played Saddle Rock multiple weeks in a row, she had noticed how the winter kill had improved.
- III. PUBLIC INVITED TO SPEAK – None.
- IV. COMMITTEE REMARKS -
  - Matt Stephens remarked he has played Aurora Hills, Springhill and Meadow Hills and that Aurora Hills was in good playing condition.
  - Jason Schneider mentioned he had played at Springhill and Saddle Rock and both courses are in great shape.
  - Jesse Stine remarked he played in the Saddle Rock/Murphy Creek Men's Club Championship tournament and the greens were fast.
  - Corey Orrel mentioned his frustration in our courses closing for Covid reasons earlier in the year, feeling Aurora Golf had missed an opportunity for revenue and that Murphy Creek's greens were still struggling to come back.
  - George Wasyluka remarked he had played all Aurora golf courses this season. He mentioned some friends he played with at Aurora Hills noticed the numerous dead trees and said it was not aesthetically pleasing as our other courses.
  - Doug Webb remarked he thought all the courses were in good shape.
  - Perry Jowsey remarked he will miss the opportunity to play in the Big Person/Little Person at Springhill with his 12 year old son this year. He said Dan O'Shaughnessy is doing a great job of creating other opportunities for parents and kids to play in a new league.
  - Omar Montgomery remarked that when the courses did re-open after being closed due to COVID, people were very excited to golf again.

V. STAFF UPDATES-

- Doug McNeil, Manager of Golf, reported there will be no in-person meetings until further notice.

VI. FINANCIAL REVIEW – Doug McNeil, Manager of Golf, gave a Rounds/Financial Report update. Doug reported that July was another very good month. When compared to last July, the numbers don't seem that good because of an extra payroll this July and an extra weekend of revenue last July. Rounds were up 14% for the month, continuing the significant upward trend we have seen since re-opening. Overall, the courses are rapidly making up ground lost during our closure. As of this week, our YTD rounds have actually exceeded the same time last year. Doug noted Aurora Hills rounds are not keeping pace with the other courses, but most of this is due to increasing the interval time between tee-times from 8 minutes to 10 minutes to promote more distancing between groups (Covid) and help improve the pace of play. The improvement in pace has been such that we are currently planning on staying with the increased intervals. Corey Orrel asked if we have had complaints about pace of play. Doug reported there have been regular comments from golfer surveys in the past. Adam Lyle asked if there had been any push back on the dynamic pricing. Doug replied dynamic pricing has not been implemented as of yet because of the current software capabilities. Dynamic pricing will resume at some point and will continue to be part of our pricing strategy in the future.

VII. DISCUSSION -

- Doug welcomed all new members to the committee and asked them to provide their valuable feedback as it does help staff to improve our golf operations.
- Doug updated the committee on the impacts related to COVID. He thanked the members for their patience during these difficult times. All courses have re-opened and are operating under near-normal conditions with the exception of group events such as shotgun tournaments.
- Doug updated the committee on personnel changes and vacancies. Kevin Kallas, Superintendent at Aurora Hills was moved to the superintendent position at Saddle Rock; Blake Larsen, Assistant Superintendent is currently acting in the vacant superintendent position at Aurora Hills. Dan O'Shaughnessy, Head Pro of Meadow Hills is covering the head pro vacant position at Springhill in addition to his regular position; there is currently a vacant assistant pro position at Murphy Creek. Mike Osley was the previous Superintendent at Saddle Rock and also had oversight responsibility of the other Superintendents. The oversight part of his previous role was not approved to be assigned to another Superintendent. Currently all Head Pro's and Superintendents report directly to Doug.
- Doug updated the committee on the status of software changes (booking engine). A decision was made to go back to using the old tee-sheet software in combination with a new booking engine. The performance of this combination will be reviewed after a couple months. At that point a decision will be made on whether to move forward with a request for bids to evaluate other software options in the marketplace.
- Suzie Jaquith updated that committee on the Paul McMullen Scholarship winners for 2020. There were three senior high school student recipients that each received an award of \$1,500. Lauryn Rivale of Douglas County High School, Melissa Cooke of Vista Peak Prep and Supawich Boonta of Cherokee Trail High School. The interview panel consisted of committee members, Laurie Steenrod, Dick Johnson, and Adam Lyle. She shared with the committee, the scholarship donations received for the year.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- Laurie reported the presentation to the Parks, Foundations and Quality of Life Council Policy Committee late last year went extremely well.
- Laurie reminded the committee of the annual election for Chair and Vice-Chair that still needs to happen. This will take place at the next meeting in September.

IX. GENERAL DISCUSSION –

- George Wasyluka commented, in his experience over the last few weeks, he has noticed staff at the courses have been very accommodating, friendly and helpful even under the stress of the restrictions caused by the pandemic.

X. ADJOURNMENT -

- Corey Orrel moved for adjournment and Jesse Stine seconded the motion.

Minutes approved by: Laurie Steenrod  
Laurie Steenrod, Chairperson

Minutes prepared by: Suzie Jaquith  
Suzie Jaquith, Recording Secretary

Signature: Laurie Steenrod  
Laurie Steenrod (Sep 3, 2020 12:58 MDT)

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Final Audit Report

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