



# City of Santa Barbara

## GOLF COURSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (GAC)

Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> 2015

### Regular Meeting Minutes

John Craig (Vice-Chair) called the Regular Golf Course Advisory Committee meeting to order at 4:35 pm at the Parks and Recreation Department Conference Room.

#### **Roll Call**

##### Committee members present

Gretchen Ostergren.  
John Craig. (Vice-Chair.)  
Maureen Masson.  
Bryant Henson.  
Bob Garcia.

##### Others Present

Mark Sewell, Business Analyst.  
Simon Herrera, Golf Course Superintendent.  
Chris Talerico, Director of Golf.  
Nancy Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director.

##### Absent:

Bob Swider.  
Dominic Namnath. (Chair)

#### **Changes to the Agenda**

None

#### **Written Communications**

None

#### **Public Comment**

None

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

#### **1. Approval of Minutes from February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

The Golf Advisory Committee waived the reading, and approved the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Action: Bryant Henson Motioned to approve the minutes. The approval was unanimous.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORT**

#### **2. Parks and Recreation Director –Status of Discussions Related to the Financial Issues Facing the Golf Fund.**

Nancy Rapp provided a verbal report confirming the actions taken by Council on March 10<sup>th</sup> 2015 whereby they unanimously voted to approve the refinance of golf fund debt with the general fund, increase marketing appropriations and voted 4-3 to in some way contract out the city maintenance labor in order to realize savings at the golf course.

A committee consisting 2 Parks and Recreation Commissioners and 3 GAC members will be created to assist staff in ascertaining the best operating model for the golf course. Council

expressed the desire for the operating model to retain a large control over pricing, accessibility and the quality of the golf course.

### **3. Players Improvement Fund Sub Committee.**

John Craig, Chair of the PIFSC delivered a verbal report stating that a walk through of the proposed projects to enhance playability and refurbish bunkers and tee boxes was undertaken and proposals were submitted to Golf Course Superintendent.

### **4. Recommendation of projects as put forward by PIFSC by Golf Course Superintendent.**

Simon Herrera provided a verbal report that all but two of the items proposed by the PIFSC met with his approval and so could be taken to a vote by the GAC. The larger projects were discussed in terms of estimated costs and on that basis Bryant Henson made the following motion:

That GAC approve the use of PIF for the following improvements:

- A: Eliminate the fairway bunker on #3 closest to the centre of the fairway; and
- B: Renovate and improve Blue, White and Red Tee Boxes on #4; and
- C: Renovate and improve White Tee Box on #8; and
- D: Removal of 2/3 of the bunker from front right side of Green as looking from tee box on #16; and
- E: Renovate and improve Forward Tees (Green) on #4, 6, 9, 14, 18; and
- F: Reduction in height and renovation of front left bunker by #18 green; and
- G: Renovation of back left bunker by #18 green; and
- H: Renovation and improvement of front right bunker by #10 green.

The vote was seconded by Mo Masson and approved unanimously. Staff will now work on RFP to implement in November 2015.

Furthermore, Bryant Henson motioned that GAC approve the use of PIF funds to purchase ball washers for the golf course and was unanimously approved by the GAC.

Nancy Rapp thanked the PIF members for their hard work and dedication and requested they consider a report on the progress of the PIF for a future Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

### **5. Golf Course Performance and Staff Reports**

Mark Sewell presented the rounds and revenue for the month of February and confirmed that play was showing signs of matching prior year levels in terms of revenue.

### **6. Golf Maintenance Report.**

Simon Herrera gave a verbal report into the maintenance activities at the golf course. Drainage concerns with regard the driving range have been resolved with the installation of a new storm drain piping. A full tree audit has been completed and trees are being categorized as to their maintenance needs. There will be some removals of dead trees occurring in the coming weeks. Tee box planters have been renovated on #9, #11 and #10 to improve the look of those areas. Minimal aeration is required on the greens this spring meaning play will not be affected in the short to medium term.

Since the drought were declared, the golf course has reduced water consumption by more than 30% against the previous year, and now all recycled water consumed on the course is supplied by the Val Verde Well that is unsuitable for the potable water system.

#### **7. Golf Pro Report**

Chris Talerico reported that leagues and programs are filling up well and showing continued growth. Work was well underway to improve the booking system and website for launch in April. A new call center to handle overflow and out of hour phone calls is now part of the customer service strategy for the golf course meaning golfers will always be able to talk to a human being and not need to leave messages to ask questions or book golf rounds. New Mats have been installed at the range as part of a project to increase the quality of the experience for practicing customers.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

#### **NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday April 8<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Parks and Recreation Conference Room.  
620 Laguna Street.  
4.30 pm