

Sunflower Hills Golf Course Advisory Board

Minutes from the meeting held Tuesday September 10, 2019

Sunflower Hills Golf Course Clubhouse

The meeting was called to order by Roger Miller, Chairman

Members Present: Al Ramirez, JD Downs, Kevin Jones, George Hurtado, Jeff Manning, Mark Mohler, Dan Duncan

Members Absent: Matt Palcher, Chris Bergman, Bob Runnebaum, Dennis McWilliams, (all excused)

Staff Present: Jonathan Bennett, Jeff Johnson

Dan Duncan made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 2019 meeting. A second was made by Mark Mohler

Jonathan Bennett began the meeting stating that the greens have had a good year with the exception of a few burn spots caused by a communication issue with the satellite boxes for irrigation. In particular holes #1, 2 and 8 have the worst spots on them.

Jonathan continued by stating that the roughs are weak but the irrigated areas have remained strong. There were irrigation issues with the rough but they were solved quickly. Jonathan stated that all the spots on the course that were affected by zoysia winterkill are recovering with the exception of #5.

Jonathan stated that the areas around holes #5,6,7,8 and 13 have all been re-sodded with zoysia and this fall he plans to re-sod holes #2,4 and 11.

Plans for this fall and winter include using solid tines for the greens with heavy topdressing to be done in November. Clover control will continue with an application of herbicide specific to clover next spring. This will also have a longer control for crabgrass and goosegrass.

Jeff Johnson and Jonathan informed the board that the requested funds for bunker renovation and tee renovation were approved for the 2020 budget. Jonathan stated that bid sheets have been given to three local companies. Tee bid sheets will be given once the total amount has been determined for the bunkers. To speed up the process zoysia sod might be purchased for the tee tops.

Jonathan stated that the details for the renovations include: removing old sand from the bunkers with in house labor hauling away material, re-edge and expand bunkers to original size, trench new drainage lines and connect to existing pipes. Pipes and pea gravel will be purchased by the course and a polyast bunker liner will be installed in house after the bunker is cleaned out by the contractor. Work can begin this fall but no payments for the work can be made until Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.

The goal is to have the bunkers done by May 1<sup>st</sup>. This is dependent on the weather.

Jonathan stated that of the 31 bunkers on the course, 25 of them will be renovated and 6 of them taken out. The ones that will be taken out are bunkers that rarely come into play.

JD Downs asked Jonathan if there would be much landscaping done to the new tee areas. Jonathan explained that there would be no landscaping around the new tees. Most of the new tees will be forward tees and they will simply be circular areas with laser leveled tops.

Jeff informed the board that rounds for the year are down 3%. Greens fee revenue is up 4% and cart revenue is up 3%. The month of June was the best month since 2008 with rounds up 10%, green fee revenue up 14%, cart revenue up 8% and total revenue for the month up 12%.

The month of July was the best July since 2009 with rounds up 7%, green fees up 9%, cart revenue up 2% and total revenue up 6%.

The month of August was the best August since 2009 as well. Although rounds were down by 4%, green revenue was up 11%, carts were up 4% and total revenue up 8%. August could have been really big if 3 rain events would not have happened during key times and days. Those rain events caused the course to lose at least 320 rounds that were confirmed to play on those days. Combined, June, July and August saw rounds up by 5% and revenue up 9%.

Jeff informed the board that the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual Wyandotte County Open was a success. Steve Groom, one of the areas best players won the tournament for a record 9<sup>th</sup> time and Pat-Seber Bradley won her 11<sup>th</sup> WYCO open.

Jeff also informed the board that the new budget includes money for a feasibility study for a new clubhouse. That study will take place sometime after the first of the year.

JD Downs asked if we did get a new clubhouse will the rates go up significantly. Jeff stated that it would be dependent on how the new clubhouse was paid for.

Roger Miller asked Jonathan about benches for the senior tee areas. Jonathan responded by telling that since most seniors ride carts, the carts act as the benches. Too many benches on a course cause a slow down in maintenance.

Jeff informed the board that the next meeting would be Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

George Hurtado made a motion to adjourn and a second was made by Kevin Jones. All members voted "Aye".