

**City of Portland Golf Advisory  
Committee Meeting Minutes of  
May 17, 2023 via Zoom**

**Attending:**

Members: Alex Chitsazan, Patsy Pitts, Tom Williams, Brenda Carpenter, Madison Perry, Chase Morinaka, Robert Williams

Concessionaires:

Henry Childs, Craig Zimmerman, Jarred Gomez, JR Allen, Anna Holst, Gabrielle Thomas, Mark Mackie, Randy Morrison, Henry Childs, Fred Abell, Don Henderson, Joe Crook

Parks Staff: Todd Melton, Vincent Johnson, Danielle Solomon, Kathy Hauff, Bob Del Gizzi, Dale Stark (following Todd Melton's position)

Meeting Called to Order- May agenda approved. *April minutes to be approved in June meeting because could not enough attendees to reach a quorum.*

***Special Reports & Project Updates:***

- Recreation Update- *Vincent Johnson reports*
  - The Mayor's proposed budget is out. There should be no anticipated changes to the budget that the bureau has prepared. Budget work will continue until finalized by council in June.
  - General registration for summer programs opens today at 12:30pm which will include summer camps, swim lessons and other programs.
  - Hiring for summer staff positions continues. Overall numbers are looking good and are better than the previous two years at this time. While we are still looking for applicants for the Fitness in the Park and Inclusion Assistant positions, we have received a great number of applications for our summer camp and our Summer Free For All programs as well as aquatics where we are looking to offer swim lessons in both our indoor and outdoor pools (last year we only had staffing available to provide swim lessons in outdoor pools so we are excited for this increased offering).
  - Beginning May 11<sup>th</sup>, the City has increased its Return to Work expectations to reflect that a minimum of 50% of work time take place at a City-assigned work location (up from previous requirement which was one day a week at minimum). Much of Parks & Recreation has already been meeting or exceeding this requirement which they have done throughout the pandemic but there are some positions that we have worked with to ensure alignment with this updated requirement/policy.
- Program Updates-*Vincent Johnson reports*

- Continuing recruitment for Superintendent position to fill Kathy Hauff's position. Anticipate position to be filled within 6 weeks.
- BBQ for Kathy Hauff on 5/22 @ 12pm at Colwood maintenance bldg.
- Kathy Hauff nominated for Oregon Golf Course Assoc. Superintendent of the Year.
- Vincent, Chase, Gabrielle, and WGA Director reviewed Eagle Caddie applications and selected 6 applicants. Vincent will send congratulations and confirmations to applicants. There are alternate applications to choose from if a candidate is not interested.
- Dashboard Summary Report for all 4 Eastside courses that includes total rounds, average daily rates and rounds per play. This report will be shared every month as a benchmark tool and the gathering of historical data from POS systems. It compares current year vs. prior year and comparable to FY 2018-19 year that was considered the last "normal" year.
  - Revenue is up \$60k ahead of last year
  - Rounds have increased by approximately 500 rounds.
  - 16k this year compared to 14k in 2019
  - Average Daily Rate (ADR) increased 38% since 2019. Factors to consider is the \$1 increase during the shoulder season and the PDX card increase.
  - Rounds per playable day (RPPD) is calculated using weather metrics. The figures could be subjective since its calculated by total precipitation, temperatures and then divided by the total number of rounds.
  - Golf shop revenue is up by \$10k from last year
  - Food & Beverage is up by \$23k from last year. There were more banquet events in 2019 which was better for revenue at that time.
  - Player development increased 100% in 2019 since user activity and lesson programs. There is no data to track from last year.
- The new POS system launch dates:
  - Heron 5/23
  - Rose City 5/25
  - Other sites will launch after Memorial holiday
- Conversations being had about the effects of the price increase that golfers are having. How to design a rate structure to maintain affordability and not price players out.
  - Vincent and Gabrielle will meet with members of Robert Williams, Kemper, and members of Leisure Hour to hear their concerns about price increases.

- Rose City Day will be held on 8/27 from 3pm to 6pm
  - BridgeCity Soul Jazz will perform
  - Working on tabling and activity options
  - Posters are being made and marketing lead by Jarrad G.
  - Next meeting on 6/5
- Marketing update-
  - Marketing projects and website design will roll out in mid-June

## **PORTLAND GOLF REPORTS/FINANCIAL REPORTS-**

- - City labor contract agreement approved and active until 2026.
    - Resulted in a pay increase and retroactive from July 1.
    - 5% COLA
    - Agreement was less than the forecasted amount of \$150k, so adjustments were made, and the remainder was spread across all courses.
    - Seasonal maintenance workers new pay rate is included in the SAP budget.
    - Not expecting any major changes to hit the personnel budget.
  - RedTail
    - Forecast: \$666,445 net gains & \$2M revenue.
  - Eastside Courses includes admin costs
    - Projected net gains of \$814, 326
    - \$1.3 admin costs
    - Total forecasted net gain of \$182, 270 with ending fund balance of \$1,482, 270.
      - Greens fees down due to rainy weather
      - Maintenance expense included
    - Beginning fund balance in Spring bump is now \$1.3M and the remainder has been moved into the maintenance infrastructure sub-fund. \$4.4 M was moved into the sub-fund and budgeted projects will come from that. This will not affect operating numbers and easier to track.

## **Maintenance-**

*Kathy Hauff reports:*

### **RedTail:**

- Netting on #17 will be repaired and replaced next week
- In process of enlarging fairways, especially at landing areas
- Beginning to fertilize areas on the course for the season
- Mowing

### **Eastmoreland:**

- #14 Bunker has been renovated

- Detailing bunkers on the course
- Addressed clubhouse HVAC deficiencies for a successful Mother's Day brunch

#### **Heron Lakes maintenance update:**

- Preparing 80,000 sq. ft for 3 new Pollinator patches on Great Blue golf course. Sprayed areas to remove blackberry, Grasses, broadleaf weeds. Planning to seed in late fall with wildflower seed mix.
- Aerified / fertilized collars & surrounds to improve turf quality.
- "Needle tine" aerified localized dry spots on greens.
- Hand watering daily to improve water management.
- Started light sand top-dressing program on greens.

#### **Rose City**

- Sprayed rough for English Daisy
- Did a bunker maintenance project
- Started weed eating and spraying herbicide around trees and fence lines
- Mowing rough but at one point all the rough mowers were down, so crew got behind.
- Monthly topdressing program on our greens
- Two dead trees were removed next to 8 green which will help with the sun on that green especially in the winter.

#### **Colwood**

- No major projects but we have been trying to keep up with the rough
- Some irrigation repairs

#### **Long Range Planning- *Brenda Carpenter reports***

Met with PP&R Capital Project Manager, Mary Steward to discuss the walking trail at Rose City. \$2M from Metro grant was secured for this project. It is at the preliminary stages and no plan in place.

Mary will meet with the committee in a few months, and Brenda will ensure GAC emails are provided for the meeting invites if members are interested in joining the conversation.

There will be trail walks at Rose City Day to educate attendees about the trail.

Parks has another group working on funding for a greenway project at Rose City. This is to turn the two-way street into a one-way. The group will meet with the neighbors and accessibility groups.

**Equity Committee-** No updates

**Marketing- *Jarred Gomez reports***

- Marketing projects and building webpage.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS-**

**NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS-**

To find out more on golf events or about the Portland Parks Golf Program, please visit the website at: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/63560>

**INFORMATION FROM THE PUBLIC-** none

**Meeting Adjourned**