

**City of Portland Golf Advisory
Committee Meeting Minutes of
August 12, 2020 Zoom Meeting**

Attending:

Members: Vincent DiGiano, Brenda Carpenter, Chase Morinaka, Travis Schoen, Zari Santner, Bill Hart, Kary Youman, Julia Person

Concessionaires:

Hank Childs, Craig Zimmerman, Randy Morrison, Clark Cumpston, Kylen Trevor, Kristina Yeysin

Staff: Jesse Goodling, Vincent Johnson, Danielle Solomon, Todd Melton, Kathy Hauff

Meeting Called to Order

Agenda adopted

Special Reports & Project Updates:

Golf Supervisor, Vincent Johnson provided Parks updates in Maximo David Behrens absence- PP&R is still in Phase I of bureau programming. The bureau is rebuilding the budget to adjust for Covid and begin offering Virtual Programming; which is a “stay and play” recreation engagement in a virtual platform. Last month, the bureau went before council to propose a levy on the November ballot to provide services that have been cut. This would be a \$48 million ballot measure, over a 5-year period. For further information, contact the Parks Foundation.

The GAC would like to place a discussion on updates to the bylaws on next meeting’s agenda, where they may consider increasing the size of the committee. Vincent J. will provide Chase M. with the bylaw template to update and modernize. This will occur with the next couple of weeks.

Julia Person reported on the Crystal Springs project update- BES is leading the efforts and GAC is a stakeholder on the project. On July 30th GAC members, Akbar, Vincent J. Julia P. and Parks Director, Adena Long, toured the site along with other stakeholders such as Friends of Crystal Spring and Johnson Creek Watershed Council. The main goal is to improve the water quality and salmon habitation. By improving the water temperature, it will increase shading for the wetlands and yellow flag iris’ all the while the functionality of Eastmoreland will be maintained, the irrigation withdraw is supporting and working. GAC will maintain their partnership and collaboration with the project.

Stakeholders are concerned with biodiversity of the lake, with the various bird species that habitat. It is not only salmon. If this is not the best place for salmon, then they will keep the balance in mind to keep it equitable and financially sustainable.

Akbar Chisti noted that there are no quantified salmon metrics to refer to.

Julia Person and Vinnie DiGiano will provide information for an annual report to GAC members to build on it and update annually.

Zari S.- how are the report and fund balance reviewed with policy makers and internally? Does the committee of infrastructure and strategies discuss reinvestments when the fund balance is “healthy”? Then, unrelated ideas transpire. (Vincent J. will meet with the Asset Management team to get data that will describe and quantify issues about funds.)

Travis Schoen provided a marketing update- well known national brand, “No Laying Up” was at Eastmoreland on 8/11/20 to feature the course on their upcoming You Tube channel. Two of the six founders interviewed Vincent J., Travis S. and staff at the course. Both Eastmoreland and No Laying Up, received a lot of great feedback from followers on their social media sites.

Bryan Bruckman- presented a power point presentation, “How Important are Golf Courses to a City’s Resilience?”

It has been suggested that the GAC reach out to environmental communities that already connect with the environmental aspects of course. The idea is to promote the value of golf courses and discuss the expansion of natural areas and identifiable areas to bring back to nature. Also, to see if communities can fund or assist with projects to increase natural areas, water quality, pollinators, etc.

Other suggestions include- ask the Audubon Society to publish an article about the recreational value of golf, more media coverage about the natural aspects and include findings from the resiliency report to be added in the annual report.

PORTLAND GOLF REPORTS/FINANCIAL REPORTS-

June Activity Report – Despite the rainy first half, June was another big month for rounds and greens fees. Greens fees up 9% from last year, but 19% over the 5-year avg. Rounds were up 15% from last year, 14% over the 5-year avg.

June Budget Report – The program ended the year in a strong position, adding \$815,283 to the fund to bring the unofficial fund balance to \$1,780,613.

Maintenance- Golf Maintenance Supervisor, Jesse Goodling reports that all courses are in good shape with continued mowing and irrigation. Currently, there is work being done on green #15 at Rose City Golf Course because it is shaded 9 months out of the year; which has caused the lack of drainage and never has the time to dry out. There is poor root structure and makes it difficult to mow. Seeding will begin in a couple of weeks- 4” of the green will be of pee gravel and 12” sand on top of that to make it flat and puttable. The new green is a USGA

design and anticipated to be complete in the Spring of 2021. It will be larger and better for foot traffic.

Zari Santner inquired about the lack of 150-yard markers at Rose City. Hank Childs said that there were markers in the past, however, over time they have been broken or disappeared. There are red flags in place to identify markers. *It has been noted to replace the markers.*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- The discussion of GAC application review for new members- now that the meetings are being recorded, Vincent Johnson did not want to disclose applicants' personal information. He will follow-up with the City Attorney to determine if that information can be off the record during the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS- As of June 31, 2020- COVID omnibus bill HB 4212 was passed- All virtual meetings are required to be recorded and uploaded to an online platform for PP&R (tbd...You Tube or the PP&R Website).

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