

Wilmington Municipal Golf Course
Advisory Board
June Zoom Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Gina DiCicco, Fred Kumpel, Dean Godwin, Louise McColl, Tony Upchurch, Steve Bridges, Amy Beatty, David Donovan, Brian Mull

February Minutes: Fred motioned to approve and Gina seconded

Pro's Report - Projected revenue for 2020 fiscal year ending in June is approximately \$1.637 million.

Friends of Muni planted 21 live oaks and 10 pine trees on the golf course, enhancing the aesthetics and strategic aspects. MGA contributed \$1,000 to purchase wiregrass found around the course.

In the new renovation the cart barn is projected to cost \$304,000. The remainder of the project \$1.15 million. Amy is not optimistic about a new cart barn being built during this phase. Muni's other needs (irrigation, pumphouse, fairways) are equally important. Amy will send a breakdown to budget committee. Louise requested the renovation committee be privy to these conversations between the City and David going forward. Steve wants to schedule a meeting.

The City has requested a rate study for the Muni. Council wants a plan over the next 10 years or so to map out incremental (\$1/\$2) increases. The budget was \$8,000. The Advisory Board discussed whether this expense, which came out of the Muni Golf Course budget, was necessary. Brian conducted a similar study, gratis, two years ago in advance of the rate increase, which examined rates at public and municipal courses in the Carolinas in addition to Donald Ross public and municipal courses up-and-down the Atlantic Seaboard. Gina motioned that the Advisory Board was not in favor of the rate study, Brian seconded. Steve drafted a letter to Council, stating the Board's position.

Superintendent's Report - Matt attributed the thin fairways to nematodes and the weak common bermudagrass found in many fairways. Plans to re-sod any weak areas now that we have a sod cutter. Thanked the Friends of Muni for their help with various capital projects in recent years. Course has lost 87 trees

and planted 112. Matt is aerifying the greens July 14th and 15th, using the drill & fill technique, verticutting tees and fairways.

Marketing Committee - No Report

Renovation Committee - No Report (issues were covered in Pro's Report)

Budget Committee - No Report due to COVID-19 but expressed thanks to Friends of Muni for their work in funding projects in recent years.

City of Wilmington - Amy echoed others with praise for Friends and expressed the unique virtue of a thriving public / private partnership. Along those lines, the First Tee of Greater Wilmington notified the City that it may not be able to pay the 2nd half of its maintenance budget (\$26,000). First Tee paid the first two quarters but is asking for a delay on the last two. FT has not indicated they are insolvent or will be unable to play. They're simply dealing with a loss of revenue.

Friends of Muni - Annual raffle is underway

New Business - Another customer service survey is due but City is reluctant to send one out due to the current pandemic.

Additional golf carts are not an option due to high rent.

Other courses in the area are riding two passengers to a golf cart.

Should we discuss reversing the nines because the pace of play has improved since golfers have been starting on No. 10.

Steve thanked Dylan for setting up the meeting.

Gina motioned to close, Louise seconded.