

# Wilmington Municipal Golf Course Advisory Committee

January 9, 2023

Meeting Time: 5:00PM

Location: Clubhouse Conference Room

## **Attendance:**

Craig Davis, Jeff Darby, Steve Bridges, David Donovan, Charles Woodall, Freddy Dunn, Tony Upchurch, Chris Dean, Joe Anthony, Amy Beatty, Matt Smith, Louise McColl

## **December Secretary's Report:**

Approved: Steve Bridges and Joe Anthony approved the minutes, and all were in favor.

## **Renovations Committee:**

Furniture has been installed.

## **Friends of Muni:**

Had a good turnout for Glow Golf. The trophy case is being built. FOM will donate 9k towards the 10<sup>th</sup> hole tee box project. FOM is researching some options to install sound barriers in the clubhouse to dampen the noise. Approximate cost will be \$800 per panel. Per Amy, there are outstanding funds in the clubhouse renovations project that may be used for this project. Charles Woodall recommends installing big rugs to reduce the noise in the clubhouse. FOM is going to have a workday to install cameras, move TVs and clean up. Date TBD.

## **Budget Committee:**

David discussed the rate increase proposal. Steve, Richard, and David met to go over some ideas. Increasing green fees \$2.00 will grow revenue by \$120,000 per year. If we decided to increase green fees \$1.00 and carts fees \$1.00 it would result in \$90,000 of additional revenue. For FY24 we are limited to "10 budget increase packages" for all operational departments. The Enterprise Funds are being included in that 10. The budget office is not counting any enterprise fund that shows a rate increase. Any budget increase that we are showing in the rate increase will not go towards the 10 allowed. The golf course falls under The Community Services Dept which includes: Parks and Recs, a portion of Code Enforcement, Community Development and Affordable Housing. Steve asked Amy about appropriations for pro shop sales. Per Amy, they are discouraged from submitting appropriations with City Counsel.

A vote was made to increase green fees by \$2.00. Steve Bridges and Joe Anthony voted, no members were opposed, and all were in favor. The rate increase will take place July 1, 2023.

The Consultant to design the irrigation project will be paid from the Indirect Fund. Amy has approved that requisition. The drainage project will also be paid out of that fund. Amy has also approved that requisition.

The replacement of the valves, wires pipes etc. will be part of a presentation on Jan 30<sup>th</sup>. This will be City Council's next budget work session. Amy will include 2 slides on this project. Amy is proposing we pay 20% of this project out of our Unassigned Fund Balance and request 80% of the remaining funding to be paid in the form of a loan from the General Fund.

**Grounds Committee:**

No Update

**Marketing/Tech Committee:**

Tony recommended posting pictures of completed projects and projects that are in process inside the clubhouse. We can post these pictures on our TV's and printed signage. A suggestion was made to run a video of these projects during the morning hours.

Joe and Tony will continue to collect costs on the two POS systems. Before moving forward with a new POS proposal, David wants to see if new hardware will speed up the check-in process.

David Donovan is tasked with communicating changes that are taking place throughout the course to show players the investments that improving the quality of the course. We should take pictures of key projects and post them inside the pro shop. David will work with the City's Marketing Dept – Marian Doherty to bring course updates to all players.

**Pro's Report:**

David went through the Pro's Report. Total revenue for December was \$113,329. YTD revenue is \$1.1 million. David mentioned moving to higher end merchandise as our cliental has changed.

**Maintenance Report:**

Overall, the golf course is in good shape. Green covers were used to protect the greens during a cold snap. The covers prevented us from potential damage. The pond needs to be dredged to prevent the matter from being pumped on the course. David Mayes is scheduled to come onsite to assess the parking area including stripping, railing, and spillway. Bunker sand project is scheduled to be finished in February. The greens drainage project will start in May. Wire grass has been delayed until the irrigation project is completed. Matt is going to see if we can get speed limit signs from the streets division.

**New Business:**

Tony brought up the apartments that are being built on Oleander Dr. behind the 1<sup>st</sup> Tee area and the 8<sup>th</sup> green. There are concerns that apartment residents will walk over to the course during play and take advantage of free play

**Unfinished Business:**

Pro Shop computers remain an issue for customers checking in.

**Meeting Adjourned 6:00pm**