

MINUTES

City of San Diego
Municipal Golf Committee (MGC)
March 16, 2017

Meeting held at:

Doyle Recreation Center
8175 Regents Rd.
San Diego, CA 92122

Mailing address is:

Torrey Pines Administration Building
11480 N. Torrey Pines Road
La Jolla, CA 92037

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Megan Mahoney
Kurt Carlson
Ann Dynes
Michael Zucchet
Paul Spiegelman
Chris Wahl
Marc Sorensen

Members Absent

Doris Cronkhite
Susan Casagrande
(BP Men’s GC Seat, vacant)
Vacant

Staff Present

John Howard

CALL TO ORDER

Michael Zucchet called meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2016 MINUTES

A motion was made by Marc Sorenson and seconded by Kurt Carlson to approve the minutes.

Motion: **MOVED / SECONDED MR. SORENSON / MR. CARLSON**

The vote was unanimous.

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT

Michael Zucchet reported that he had made contact with the Mayor’s office regarding the appointment of committee members, explaining when each member was reappointed and also when they expire. Mr. Zucchet mentioned that there are now two (2) vacancies in the committee. John Howard stated that the BP Men’s club had gotten together to discuss a possible applicant for one of the vacancies.

STAFF REPORT

John Howard reported on the new fleet of equipment that was acquired by the Golf Division, and its successful utilization during the Farmers’ Insurance Open. Mr. Howard also stated that there was a fifteen percent increase in attendance from last year’s Farmers Open, with a \$30 million economic impact and 120,000 hotel room stays.

Mr. Howard also reported on the credit card integration with the POS system. It went live at Mission Bay on Wednesday, March 15. Torrey Pines will go live on Wednesday, March 22, and

Balboa Park will go live on March 29. This integration is the completing factor of an audit requirement.

Next, Mr. Howard introduced the Spring Aerification dates for each course. He mentioned that the aerification will be changing, with North Torrey Pines being in August.

Lastly, John Howard stated that the North Course at Torrey Pines would be opening up availability, as daylight starts to extend, and they anticipating that by early summer, they will be completely open and ready to go.

COMMITTEE COMMENT

Paul Spiegelman praised Golf for bringing benches to the North Course at Torrey Pines.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

John Howard first mentioned a non-agenda public email that was sent by Daryl, and would be provided to the committee the following day.

ACTION ITEM

101. Presidio Golf Course

Ann Dynes introduced the issue of possibly taking an initiative for the City to acquire and renovate Presidio Golf Course. Ms. Dynes stated that the course is currently under a month to month lease, not getting watered, and is uneconomic, in its current form.

Public speaker, Carol Jenson, discussed the historical and emotional attachment she has had with Presidio Golf Course, and the possible value it could have, in addition to being located right next to Old Town.

Second public speaker, Nancy Wilkens-Diehr, who is not a golfer, expressed her concerns that while driving by the course on a continual basis, wanted to find possible solutions for the course, and what could be done for improvements. Ms. Wilkens-Diehr stated that many options have been discussed with other groups, and they would like to see something productive come of the area.

Public speaker, Jim Brown began by explaining several perspective options for Presidio, including private commercial opportunities, public opportunities (which Mr. Brown expressed as what his interest would be), and any other open suggestions. Mr. Brown stated that Presidio Hills has been allowed to deteriorate, and it's a civic institution that should be restored. Mr. Brown was also concerned that the golf course parking lot is now being used for commercial use, and he does not feel that it is an appropriate use of that site, which was intended to support the course. Mr. Brown would like the committee to take into consideration his suggestions for Presidio, and bring them to the City Council to be heard.

Public speaker, Logan Jenkins, stated that the City does recognize that what has happened now is not sustainable. Mr. Jenkins also mentioned that whatever happens in the next evolutionary step for Presidio should be in the best interest for the City.

Michael Zucchet noted that although Presidio is on City property, it is not currently part of the Golf Division. Mr. Zucchet questioned what would be the ability for Golf to use the Enterprise

Fund, on a one time basis, and whether or not Golf would be able to take over Presidio as one of its own.

John Howard responded that he was unaware of any provisions in the Enterprise Fund that would allow for Golf to invest in anything outside of what it currently handles. Mr. Howard stated that although the City owns 13 golf courses (including Presidio), the Enterprise Fund is only set up for Torrey Pines, Balboa Park, and Mission Bay. Mr. Howard also expressed that if we used the same model to take over Presidio, operating costs would be close to \$1 million, and the revenue coming in from customers would still require being subsidized by Torrey Pines. Mr. Howard also mentioned that there would most likely be an archeological factor at play, when it came to dealing with the involvement of installing an irrigation system at Presidio.

A motion was made by Ann Dynes and seconded by Michael Zucchet to write a letter to Chris Ward for his assistance to obtain an RFP for Presidio

Motion: **MOVED / SECONDED MRS. DYNES/ MR. ZUCCHET**

The vote was unanimous.

102. Balboa Park Clubhouse Project

John Howard reported that between the initial Clubhouse Project, with costs of \$25 million and a phased approach of \$12 - \$14 million, neither option would be feasible to the Golf Division. Mr. Howard then reported that although Golf would not be able to move forward with this project, a combined approach to obtain an RFP for food and beverage would be used for food and beverage. This would consist of a casual setting, full liquor license and something consistent without changing the feel.

103. South Course Capital Improvement Project

John Howard reported that the Capital Improvement Project for the South Course would consist of a new irrigation system in 2018, and bunker drainage improvements in 2019. The project would also include leveling of tees, and renovation and replacement. The Capital Improvement Project would take place over the next couple of years, without any planned closures or changes from the USGA coming out in August.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM

Next Regular Meeting: **Thursday May 18, 2017 6:00 P.M.**
 Doyle Recreation Center
 8175 Regents Rd, San Diego, CA 92122