



City of Albuquerque

Municipal Golf Advisory Board November 2015 Minutes

Meeting Held: 11/19/2015

Location: Ladera

In attendance:

James Crane	Senior Golfers	David Salas	COA Golf Management
Rusty Arrighetti	PDS Men's	Tim Martinez	COA Golf Management
Elaine Deland	Los Altos Women's	Christine Allison	COA Golf Management
Gerry Quinlan	Los Altos Men's		
Jean Maher	PDS		
Wright Zimmerly	Ladera Concessionaire		
Todd Kersting	PDS Concessionaire		

Meeting was called to order at 3:01pm by Gerry Quinlan

Introductions

Gerry Quinlan opened the Golf Advisory Board (GAB) meeting dialogue. We went around the table to have self-introductions of everyone in attendance which included: Board Members, Concessionaires, and City Staff.

Minutes

A motion was made and seconded, for the GAB October 2015 minutes to be approved.

Public Comments

None

Golf Management Reports and Updates

Personnel Updates

David Salas: ADO is ½ a step closer towards filling the 2 Operator positions. The paperwork is in process. The Mechanic position was filled; I believe I reported that last meeting. The Ladera M-14 Supervisor position has been interviewed for and is pending approval through HR. The last I heard it was in budget, as soon as I get that back I will make an offer. The Mechanic was filled here at Ladera as well. He is off to a good start; getting a lot of this equipment fixed. He is off and running. Interviews have been scheduled for the Los Altos Assistant Supervisor, M13 position for November 23rd. PDS is fully staffed. The goal is still to get remaining positions filled by Christmas. We are down to about 5 positions. Hopefully by the end of the month we will be down to about 3 vacant positions.

Rusty Arrighetti: Is there different staffing guidelines in the winter than there is in the summer?

David Salas: No.

Rusty Arrighetti: The number of operators or whatever?

David Salas: No, the "org"- chart that the City has is for full time bodies year round.

Rusty Arrighetti: Ok.

James Crane: Regardless of whether they are needed or not? That's nuts.

David Salas: Well they are always needed.

Elaine Deland: Well it takes so long to hire somebody.

David Salas: Better hang on to them. Are there any other questions on personnel?

Rounds and Revenue

Gerry Quinlan: Everybody should have gotten a copy of the rounds and revenue report. I think it speaks for itself. One of those mysteries of this thing; the green fee revenue is up 5½% even though rounds are down 2%.

Elaine Deland: Wait, what did you say?

Jean Maher: Rounds are down almost 2%.

Gerry Quinlan: The summary is in this little set of squares down here. It's kind of a mystery how green fee revenue can be up by 5½% if rounds are down by 2%.

Elaine Deland: Tim can you explain that?

Tim Martinez: My quick explanation would be that prior to this, Ladera had significant gains in revenue and also in rounds. So I would say that Ladera had a lot more 18-hole rounds than they did last year. Paying more revenue per round then last year.

Elaine Deland: So the rounds can be down but because they are charging more?

Tim Martinez: They are not charging more they are just paying 18-holes instead of 9-holes. You have the same foot traffic but they are paying more each time they come in. While we were going through the construction, we had some construction specials. A lot of them were 9-hole specials.

Gerry Quinlan: The revenue at Ladera is up \$82,000 from what it was last year. That basically accounts for almost all the increase.

Concessionaire Comments

Wright Zimmerly: No, I'm good. I'm knee deep in RFP's.

Gerry Quinlan: Todd must be out. He is almost always here, or did he not know about the meeting?

Tim Martinez: I did not hear from him.

James Crane: Did they review the RFP?

Wright Zimmerly: Yes, there was a 2-week delay and we just submitted it on Friday.

Golf Advisory Board (GAB) Member Comments

Rusty Arrighetti: PDS is in good shape. One thing that I would like you to address is on the south side of #16 tee box, between the tee box and cart path; that has not dried up all year. All the drainage funnels right there. I'm wondering if they can't put in a french drain or something to dry that up?

David Salas: Henry has that in his winter plans.

Rusty Arrighetti: One other thing. I went to the website and renewed my application for the GAB. How do we know if it has been accepted? Will they contact me?

David Salas: Carmen Ortiz from the Mayor's office will contact you. We can call ahead and find out.

James Crane: Why would they turn you down?

Rusty Arrighetti: I'm a good guy, I don't have any felonies. I was curious as to what the confirmation process was.

David Salas: We will call down there and make sure she is in receipt of it.

James Crane: The course is in good shape except for the damn gophers. They are tearing the place up. Need to do something about it soon.

David Salas: They are out there trapping every day. We have 2 maintenance workers out there running flags. All these little flags sticking up are marking traps.

James Crane: Tell me again why you can't put poison down their holes? They would eat it down there and die.

David Salas: Because of the other animals. Hawks, coyotes, although I'm sure no one would complain about the coyotes; other wildlife might be impacted. The coyotes actually have figured out how to pull them out of the ground and eat them off the traps.

Elaine Deland: Maybe we should have a contest.

James Crane: Well you never see them. They come out at night.

David Salas: Yes, they are nocturnal.

James Crane: Good thing I don't have a saddle horse. Those gopher holes, you could walk along and step right down. On #9 out here, they have undercut that whole green.

David Salas: They guys are out trapping aggressively.

Elaine Deland: I don't have anything. You mentioned last time about a guy running over golf balls.

Gerry Quinlan: Right.

Elaine Deland: The girls were upset that was happening to them too.

David Salas: I can't give you specifics because it is a personnel issue at this point. I can tell you that it has been addressed. The individual has been brought in and talked to.

Gerry Quinlan: The men's association sent a letter to Golf Management asking that this individual who was identified by name in the letter be moved to someplace else in Park and Rec., Golf Management has chosen to try and counsel him.

Elaine Deland: I think the women's association did the same thing. I did not see the letter.

Gerry Quinlan: If you have my email address, I think I have it in electronic form. I won't broadcast it to the whole group, but I will send it to you.

James Crane: It's probably moot at this point. It is very unlikely they are going to be mowing now.

Elaine Deland: Oh that's true, probably not until next year.

Jean Maher: Puerto looks really good. We are still having some discussion about the trailer that is there. Why is it there? Why it has not been moved? How can we get it moved? Are people there paying rent?

David Salas: No. Actually what is going on with that currently, is that the person that resides there is an APD Officer. The original intent was for presence of an Officer to watch over the property, to do patrols, to have presence there. Since the original agreement was done, that individual sold the property to another Officer. The contract has since expired.

Jean Maher: Sold? But it was being rented?

David Salas: The trailer belongs to an individual. No, they don't pay rent but the trailer does belong to them. We are working on the contract right now. Legal has just drafted up a new agreement. The new agreement will come with terms of upkeep for the yard, the trailer, and the skirting. It's been lax on Golf's part that we did not get this done earlier.

Jean Maher: Since they were being asked to have some APD presence there, could it be increased to ask them to patrol the parking lot and maybe go around the perimeter especially in the summer months?

David Salas: Oh definitely. The other thing we are asking for is a written report of his patrols, a monthly report to verify his patrols. That way we know that he has been going out on patrols. We talked to him about 2 months ago and he said "I bought the trailer, but I didn't know I had to do anything." Legal is drafting their version. I believe we received a copy of that yesterday. We should be implementing that soon.

Jean Maher: Is that going to be written in to it?

David Salas: Yes, definitely. Now is the time. One thing that he has done is park the car further out there now. We did mention to him, it doesn't do a bit of good if it is hiding behind the restroom and nobody knows that there's an Officer there.

Jean Maher: There are a lot of the weeds that are going dormant.

David Salas: I did send Henry a report from your comments from last month. Weeds were one of them. Wait I'm sorry, it was Gerry that talked about the weeds in the fairways. I will make mention to Henry. Now is a good time, we can do some sod. It's getting a little bit late to germinate seed. Sod would "take" at this point.

Gerry Quinlan: I had not played Los Altos in the last month because I was out of town. I do notice that a lot of courses, and it's mostly the ones that charge more for greens fees, the sand in the sand bottle has seeds and compost. At the City courses, I've never seen them. Is that a lot more expensive?

David Salas: No, it isn't. The problem is that it germinates inside the bottle.

Gerry Quinlan: Los Altos Men's had their board meeting yesterday, and there were no comments about the course. I have a question about the Rio Grande Rewards that was brought up last month. Where does that stand?

David Salas: At this point we haven't done anything with it. In the very near future we want to put together a public meeting and involve the GAB for the different ideas we have for rewards for membership drives. We want to have GAB support and public support.

Gerry Quinlan: I would like to echo what John said last month. This Board recommended some type of membership program that was put on hold until after the 1st of the year; until the new consultant looked at it. Is that dead in the water right now?

David Salas: No, the consultant is still in the works. We're waiting for paperwork from purchasing.

Gerry Quinlan: So far there is nothing in the works about an annual membership program?

David Salas: Nothing solid.

Todd Kersting: Everything seems good, considering winter. That's all since I was late.

Old Business:

David Salas: Los Altos well is in progress, nothing new.

Gerry Quinlan: How often do the golf courses get watered?

David Salas: At least once a week in the winter to maintain pliability.
A water cost question was asked.

The pricing difference between well water at \$47.10 per acre foot, versus domestic at \$670.00 per acre feet is quite significant; average was \$15-18k a year to about \$230k. Metering ability was always available at Los Altos as a backup. There is no cost savings for watering at different times throughout the day. If we exceed our annual budget of 40 inches a square foot per year then we would be charged a surcharge fee similar to the "high usage" charge residential customers might see.

David Salas: The Ladera RFP is closed as of this past Friday. Purchasing should be contacting the Adhoc Committee to review packets. They do not share information with me until the board sits down and reviews them together. I don't know when the first meeting is.

Gerry Quinlan: I guess it's okay to say that I never got a copy of the final RFP that was sent out. We had a comment period. Misty Billy sent an email stating the RFP was attached. It was not. I let her know but have not heard back.

New Business:

Jean Maher: Sharon Harrington would be willing to be the women's representative for Ladera. The 4th set of tees was revisited again. The course would need to be re-rated requiring new score cards. It was also suggested the color not be red as that is associated with "women's tees". It was mentioned that a "hybrid course" could be an option by adding a line on the score card.

James Crane: Since we haven't adjourned yet. I object to the length of time it's taken to get this RFP for Ladera done. It's rough on the operators of the course. It's unconscionable in my opinion. I think it's just not right. It's occurred to me, the whole time, that this RFP process was an attempt to punish the operators of the Ladera golf course for the failings of Golf Management to keep the course in good condition. I also object to the secrecy that's involved in the RFP process. It's a public business and it should be available to the public to understand what's going on.

Motion to adjourn by James Crane and seconded by Elaine Deland at 4:41pm.

Approved by: _____

John Perner, Acting Chairperson

(Gerry Quinlan - in John's stead)