

**MINUTES OF THE GOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF ROWLETT, TEXAS
HELD AT
City Hall Conference Room
4000 Main Street, Rowlett, TX
January 8, 2008 - 8:00 AM**

PRESENT: Larry Glick, Geoffrey Nichols, Brad Marshall, Ronnie Howell, & C.J. Brock
(Alternate)

STAFF: Dalan Walker, Interim Parks Director; Dianne Zachary, Sr. Administrative
Assistant; Bradly Houk, General Manager of Waterview Golf Course; Michael
Keane, Waterview Golf Course Superintendent; Jennifer Robinson, Recreation
Superintendent

VISITOR: Mayor Pro Tem Cindy Rushing

1. Chairman Larry Glick called the meeting to order at 8:08 am
2. Items 2 was postponed until the arrival of Cindy Rushing, Mayor Pro Tem.
3. Items 3 was postponed until the arrival of Cindy Rushing, Mayor Pro Tem.
4. The Chair selected C J Brock as voting alternate.
5. A motion was made by Geoff Nichols and seconded by Ronnie Howell, to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2007 meeting with the following corrections:
 - a. Item 7 – Change bulleted items to reflect \$300,000, \$600-900,000.
 - b. Item 10c - Insert commas after “#16” and after “grading.”
 - c. Item 13 – insert “made a” after Bradly Houk .in the 4th paragraph down.

The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes with the above changes.

ITEM 12 was moved up on the agenda at this time.

Jennifer Robertson, Recreation Superintendent for the City of Rowlett Parks Department, asked for input from the GAC on the possibility of holding a golf tournament hosted by PARDners, a non-profit organization created to raise money for making contributions to the Parks & Recreation Department specifically. She explained that, according to the lease, one totally free day was to be set aside for a non-profit group to have complete free use of the golf course each year. The following suggestions and points were made:

- a. City Council would have to make the decision on the organization that is allowed to use the free day.
- b. A joint tournament between PARDners and the GAC
- c. A morning at 7:30 a.m. and an 1:00 p.m. afternoon tournament
- d. Including non-profit organizations in tournaments could more than double proceeds.

- e. Perhaps PARDners could do a grant for one half of the proceeds to be used on the golf course.
- f. Form "Friends of the Golf Course" non-profit group
- g. GAC is willing to work with PARDners on a full day tournament
- h. Will the by-laws for PARDners allow them to donate part of the proceeds by means of a grant to the golf course?
- i. October would be the best proposed time for the tournament.
- j. A joint meeting with Parks Advisory Board and Golf Advisory Committee should be planned.

6. Discuss golf course conditions.

Michael Keane reported that one-half complete with the projects for the year. Grass is thicker than expected and maturation should be quick once the weather warms up. Irrigation is almost finished, and the focus will be on growing grass next year. #6 & #7 are taped off through the winter to protect the grass. His crews are working on weed control in dormant areas, drainage work and detailing the shop areas after a busy season.

Ronnie Howell asked what could be done about the sunken areas where pipes go across the fairway. Michael hopes to remove sod from other areas where removal is needed and place it as a base to cover the damaged areas. The best time to perform this type of work is in the summer, and the worst areas are on #1 & #2.

Brad Marshall asked how drainage on the front nine is working. Michael reported #9 is slow and may always be as leaves cover the drains this time of year. Bradley Houk mentioned that American Golf personnel who observed the covered cart path during the last rain are discussing connecting the pipe to another drain approximately 500' away.

The drainage pipe for practice green #1 has been installed.

C. J. Brock brought up a discussion regarding "Avid Golfer" magazine's rating for the Waterview Golf Course and indicated that the poor service was the main reason for the negative comments. Bradley Houk believes the cancellation of American Golf's advertising is the reason for the poor placement on Avid Golfer's list. C J Brock asked to be able to bring representatives from Avid Golfer to Waterview with a former member of the PGA tour to present the course in a positive way. The Chair requested an agenda item be placed on the February agenda to discuss this issue after copies of requested articles are distributed to all Committee members for consideration.

7. Discuss cleanup of retention ponds.

Public Works will donate the use of City equipment to reshaping and dredging the ponds of #11 and #14 as soon as Dalan Walker forwards needed information to Teague Nall Perkins. The window of opportunity is closing quickly for completing this work. Dalan will complete the drawings and transmit them to the engineers before the end of January. Dalan asked that Michael Keane proceed with draining the pond on # 11 in order to allow them to dry out before work begins.

Brad Marshall told the Committee the pond on #14 probably just needs to have the silt build-up, in front of the in-bound drain, removed. On #11 the plan is to clean up along that fence line behind homeowners' houses so that we can see what we're dealing with there. We need to decide how we will build that out; grading the shoreline and sloping down into the 8' area. The south end of the pond all needs to be cleaned out. We also need to decide which trees to keep. All the willow trees on the southeast side of the pond need to be removed. Brad mentioned the Waterivew HOA has some money set aside to participate in cleaning up some of the other ponds like #6 & #7.

Bradly Houk cautioned that the position of the proposed new tee box needs to be measured for insurance purposes.

Michael Keane believes this course needs a beautiful, aesthetic hole like this one.

8. Staff updates on golf course improvements.

Dalan Walker reported on three projects:

- a. Slater has replaced their three trees on the course.
- b. Fannin has not yet replaced the three trees they planted.
- c. Drainage by Community Park - still waiting for turf to be established.

Michael Keane asked Dalan about a clipped or damaged a communication wire on #7 green and #8 by the contractor, North Texas. It is affecting irrigation boxes on #6 & #7, and needs to be repaired near the cart path. Dalan gave the contact information for North Texas to Jeremy.

City staff who fill the bags around trees on the course are not doing a good job. They are not putting the heads back in properly or replacing snap rings and "O" rings. Michael provides supplies, but they are not replacing them properly. Dalan will speak to Tim Hightshoe about the problem.

Items 9 & 11 were discussed at this time.

Discuss fund raising options for the golf course. (Larry Glick)

C J Brock added that we need a full day on the golf course for our purposes. In the afternoon have the shotgun event, and in the morning there are a couple of options:

- Play as many balls as you can, and the more balls you play, the more money you raise.
- Get individuals to go out and get pledges for \$5/hole or whatever they can raise. Ten guys can raise a great deal of money in a 4-5 hour stretch.

Bradly Houk suggested combining items 9 & 11 on the agenda. Use the second day to hold a City Championship as many other cities do. Entry fees are \$150/person for 2 days, and the GAC could clear \$100/player after what golf course would charge us to hold the event. He has had over 1000 people asking about it. HEB makes over \$40,000 on their tournament. Prizes can be shop credit, golf balls, a parking space for a year, etc. Sponsors can donate drinks to enhance the revenue. This should be separate from the Parks Tournament, and should be held annually. Bradly suggested charging an extra \$50

for non-Rowlett residents. The winner would represent Rowlett and Waterview at the Dallas Morning News Tournament of Champions.

At 9:20 a.m., Cindy Rushing, Mayor Pro Tem, arrived and items 2 & 3 were considered.

Mayor Pro Tem Rushing informed the Committee of the new mayor's desire to be more interactive with Boards and Committees, and more open communication.

- a. Publically Approved Bond Package in 2009 – no Council elections that year. Need to start thinking what GAC projects might be placed on the bond ballet through the Parks Department for the golf course.
- b. They are forming a Charter Revision committee and hope to have a November 2008 election.
- c. A “connector road” from Liberty Grove under I-190, up Merritt to the new high school in NW Rowlett that will give direct access to Waterview. Brad Marshall asked if the small segment that will be left of Liberty Grove Road be renamed “Waterview Parkway” to give better advertising for the golf course. The “connector road” should be completed by 2009 and will have 4 retail corners at the toll road intersection. Drivers will be exiting at the toll plaza and continue just two miles to the golf course.

Mrs. Rushing invited the GAC and Waterview Golf Course to add any items of interest to the Channel 16 Cable Station the City has at no charge. The Mayor has a monthly cable show called “Rowlett on the Move” during which he interviews staff and guests. This could also be an additional avenue for the golf course and the GAC to use. The staff contact for adding items to the cable station is Donna Huerta in Public Information at 972-463-3954.

Texas A&M is planning a four-year campus for MBA programs in the North Shore area of NE Rowlett. The campus will enhance the entire area and the golf course.

The Mayor Pro Tem suggested the GAC begin to prepare capital improvement ideas to be included in the bond issue and get them to Dalan Walker in Parks to be included in the Parks & Recreation CIP package.

10. Discuss a possible bunker on Hole # 2 and the cost. (Larry Glick)

Bradly Houk reported that he has met with Jeremy with American Golf who indicated we may be able to have a bunker on Hole #2. 60-90% of the sand can be harvested from the bunker on Hole# 16. A 20' x 40' bunker will cost \$2.43-\$2.75 per cubic foot for an estimated total of \$3-\$4000 total

Item 11 was discussed in conjunction with Item 9 previously.

Item 12 was discussed after Item 5 previously.

3. Discuss the information provided by Bradley Houk on enclosing the Club House. (C J Brock)

Bradly presented four options for the enclosure of the patio at the Club House:

- a. 3' wall with roll down side of canvas or vinyl and one side solid = \$25-30,000
- b. 3' wall with framing to add support to the canvas or vinyl sides adds \$15,000 for a total of approximately \$40-45,000.
- c. 4' wall with a garage type roll down door of hard plastic or Plexiglas = \$75-90,000
- d. An old style RV window with turning handles to open the area to a view of the course would run approximately \$100,000.

After hearing the City Council plans for expansion along the I-190 corridor in Rowlett, Bradley indicated he will investigate the possibility of having American Golf enclose the patio as a full banquet room

14. Discuss Golf Course Strategic Plan. (Larry Glick)

The Chair asked C J Brock to share the top 5 priorities as submitted by members of the Committee:

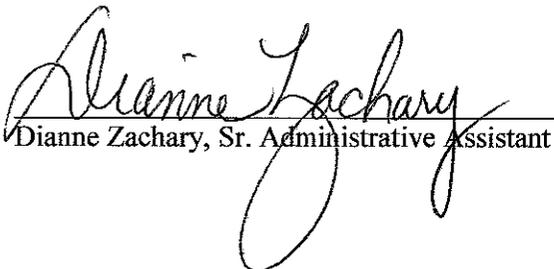
- a. Pond Cleanup (already happening)
- b. Addition of new trees to complete Tree Master Plan in the areas that are now under construction
- c. Short range renovations (Tee boxes, logo, etc.)
- d. Pond additions
- e. Driving range lights

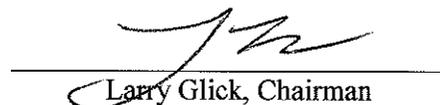
Michael would like to prune the mature golf course trees up the center in order to enhance the canopy coverage.

15. Members of the Board may request topics for future agenda meetings. No member of the board or commission may discuss any of the requested subjects until such matter have been properly placed on a posted agenda.

- a. Discuss "Avid Golfer" ratings for Waterview. (C J Brock)
- b. Vote on #2 bunker after golf course tour at next month's meeting.
- c. Consider content for joint GAC meeting with City Council on February 19th.

9. Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.


Dianne Zachary, Sr. Administrative Assistant


Larry Glick, Chairman