

**Nampa Golf Commission  
Meeting Minutes 5/16/23**

**Attending:** Todd Durbin, Scott Jacobsen, Craig Stensgaard, Hadley Hersh, Brandon Crim, Darrin Johnson, Neal Murphy, Steve Wilson, Bob Nash, Tony Blasius, Cody Swander, Keri Riley, Josh Davidson, June York, Rick Hogaboam

**Absent:** Fred Sutton

**Meeting called to order** at 9:00 AM by Commission Chairman Todd Durbin.

**Minutes:** Commission Secretary Steve Wilson read an amendment to be added to the April minutes to indicate that future meetings will be held at the Harward Recreation Center rather than City Hall. A motion was made by June York, seconded by Craig Stensgaard and approved by all the members present to accept the amended minutes from 4/18/23.

**Financial Reports:** Hadley Hersh reported that April revenue was up in all categories from last year with the good weather we had. Scott Nicholes reported for Ridgecrest that revenue was up \$60K from last year and added that they've been very busy. May has also been very busy so far. They also started Get Golf Ready. Darrin Johnson reported that no large capital items were reported for the period and expenses were as expected. A motion was made by Steve Wilson, seconded by Craig Stensgaard and approved by all the members present to accept the financial reports.

**Operations/Course Conditions Reports:** Brandon Crim reported for Centennial that he is hiring and training seasonal staff and they have been very busy. He chased down and corrected an irrigation wiring issue. The large rough mower has been out for repair but should be back soon. It's been difficult to keep up with rough mowing with the smaller rough mower. He will begin fertilizing tees soon. Bob Nash reported that he's played several times lately and the course conditions were very good. He asked why there were not benches on every tee box. Brandon Crim indicated that some of the benches they had were in bad shape and had not been replaced. Darrin Johnson reported that new benches are not budgeted, but they will look into getting benches sponsored. Neal Murphy reported that parking is difficult for cart trailers. Tony Blasius reported that redoing the parking lot is in the near-term plan, including possibly adding a trailer lot down close to the maintenance area. Josh Davidson reported for Ridgecrest that the grass is growing well, and they are doing a lot of mowing. The greens were punched last week, they've started bunker work by adding sand, and will work on bunker lips when they can. He's also been working on irrigation issues and spraying weeds. Bob Nash reported that the greens are recovering well from being punched and he's gotten many positive comments on the condition of the course. He asked about drainage issues in the bunkers. Josh Davidson indicated that many of the bunkers do not have enough sand, and he hopes adding sand will help with drainage. If that's not adequate, they will look at other options. The subject of losing balls over the end of the range was discussed. There's long been a plan to extend the range by pushing back the dirt berm and planting/sodding the additional ground. That would require adding irrigation to the new area, which might take some time. Todd Durbin suggested that at least getting the dirt berm pushed back would help in the short term to not lose so many balls, which are expensive to replace, and the sod/irrigation issues can be pursued later. Darrin Johnson and Cody Swander will see what can be done to do that.

**Public Relations Reports:** Craig Stensgaard reported that an Idaho Senior's tournament was held April 6-7 with about 110 players. On 4/13 Nampa Christian Boys held a 9-hole tournament. On 4/15 CLGA held a 2-Lady Scramble, and 4/16 was the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the Ridgecrest/Centennial 2-Man Scramble. Greens were aerified 4/25-26. Get Golf Ready was held 4/6 through 5/11 with 12 participants each week. The CMGA 2-Man Best Ball was held 5/6, with a US Kids event afterward. Treasure Valley Women's Interclub held an event on 5/15 with 72 ladies. June York reported for Ridgecrest that Men's League started 4/19 with 48 teams that filled up in two and half days, and IPM and CSA held a shotgun event with 128 players. A Rocky Mtn Section PGA Player Ability Test was held on 4/20, as well as a Compass Charter J.V tournament. A Ladies Sip N Chip was held on 4/21, Get Golf Ready started 4/25, and a lady's clinic was provided by the course pros on 4/27. A Drive, Chip and Putt local qualifier was held on 4/30. Cole Valley Charter High School held an event on 5/2. The annual Mayor's Tournament was held on 5/5 with a full field of teams. Veterans Golf Assoc. held an event on 5/6 with 32 players. A U.S. Kids tournament was held on 5/7. Get Golf Ready was held on 5/8 as was a First Tee of Idaho Second Chance Program. On 5/12 SME held a Reverse Shotgun.

**Golf Manager Report:** Tony Blasius wanted to give kudos to both Brandon Crim and Josh Davidson's crews for the condition of both courses. Also, to Scott Nicholas' team for hosting the Drive Chip and Putt event and the Mayor's Tournament. Tony distributed a financial report highlighting that good weather drives revenue for both courses. He indicated that the City Council had approved an FY24 purchase of 60 new carts for Centennial. Because of the long lead time to get new carts, the Council approved it in advance of FY24 so they can be ordered now. As carts are replaced, they will be ordered with lithium-ion batteries that last longer and reduce energy costs. He also reported that he is looking into possibly providing water on the courses which was discontinued during covid. That will be a discussion item for next month's meeting. Darrin Johnson reported that the consultants hired to develop a long-term golf plan will be here 6/12-13 to gather feedback at the courses. More information on that will come out soon. A motion was made by June York, seconded by Steve Wilson and approved by all the members present to accept the Operations/Course Conditions, Public Relations, and Golf Manager reports.

**Mayor's Tournament Update:** Kari Riley distributed a financial report on the tournament. The tournament was a financial success despite the bad weather.

#### **Old Business**

- **Review Golf Commission Policy:** A meeting was held on 4/26 by a subcommittee to discuss revision of the policies of the Golf Commission. Another meeting will be scheduled soon.
- **Driving Range:** Tony Blasius reported that we should receive City Council approval soon to purchase concrete strips and hitting mats to be located at the back of the driving range on both courses. This will permit off-season use of the ranges without damaging the grass outside of the growing season.
- **Donation Process:** Tony Blasius reported that they have developed an online form to be completed by any entity requesting the courses to donate things like free rounds for door prizes for events. This will help ensure that both courses handle these requests in the same way.

**New Business:**

- **Pepsi Youth Golf Scholarships:** No applications were received this month.
- **Mayor's Tournament Recap:** This was discussed above. Rick Hogaboam wanted to pass on Mayor Kling's thanks to the Commission and city staff involved in carrying out this year's tournament.
- **Mayor's Tournament Golf Scholarship Application:** One application was received on time but was garbled by problems with the website. Commissioners reviewed the information sent by the applicant, but the grade transcript was not available. Because Todd Durbin personally knows the applicant, he abstained from voting. A motion was made by Craig Stensgaard, seconded by Steve Wilson and passed by all remaining members present to approve the application conditioned on providing a transcript that verifies compliance with the scholarship requirements. Todd Durbin will obtain the transcript and notify the rest of the commissioners if it does or does not comply with the requirements.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM.

**Next Meeting:** The next regular meeting of the Golf Commission is scheduled for 9:00 AM, June 20<sup>th</sup> at the Harward Recreation Center.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Wilson, Commission Secretary.