

## GOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

REGULAR MEETING  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2016, AT 9:00 A.M.

A regular meeting of the Golf Advisory Committee (GAC) was convened by the Chairman, John McDonnell, at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, January 8, 2016, in the Board Room at Gateway Complex.

Present, in addition to the Chairman, were Lydia F. Bolinger, Mary Hufford, Stephen D. Roath, Susan Williamson, and Mary Lou Delpech, ex-officio member and GRF Board representative. William L. Herrick was excused. Also attending were Les Birdsall, President, GRF; Tim O'Keefe, CEO; Mark K. Heptig, Director of Golf; Blake Swint, Golf Course Superintendent; and Dickey Nitta, Chief Marshal. Donald A. Terry, Vice Chairman, joined the meeting already in progress. Attendance

The report of the Committee's regular meeting held on November 13, 2015, was approved as written. Report Approved

The Chairman welcomed and introduced the new CEO, Mr. O'Keefe. The Chairman introduced the GAC members, and Mr. O'Keefe made some introductory remarks to the group. The Chairman then thanked Mr. Terry for conducting the November meeting. Chairman's Welcome & Introductions

Ms. Delpech presented the GRF Board report and noted that the Board approved the capital expenditures budget for 2016. GRF Board Report

Ms. Hufford, representing the Women's 18-Hole Club, reported the following: 1) January is usually a quiet time for the Club; 2) a Tee Off meeting to launch the season will be held in February; and 3) there will be tables at the Tee Off meeting for information about events and ways for members to participate. Club Reports

Mrs. Bolinger, representing the Women's 9-Hole Club, reported that the Club is also quiet in January, and the Club's Tee Off launch meeting will be held in March.

Mr. Roath, representing the Rossmoor Men's Golf Club (RMGC), reported the following: 1) the Club will have its launch meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup> at the Event Center; 2) an effort was made this year to call Club members who had not renewed their membership, which was successful and appreciated by the members; and 3) the Club, which coordinates the printing of the Golf Directory, presented a color draft of the directory. Mr. Nitta presented the draft to the Clubs' representatives, who said they liked the draft. It was also noted that each Club takes responsibility for the accuracy of its section of the directory.

Ms. Williamson, representing the Happy Hackers Club, reported that the Happy Hackers' season is also dormant, but the Club is promoting and working on ways to include golfers with disabilities into the tournament atmosphere by modifying elements of the game either by time, use of the practice area, or the course. The Club will be working on this project with the Pro Shop. It was noted that the project is an extension

of the RMGC's effort to include golfers with disabilities into its tournament days, as many of these golfers are lifetime players who have experienced life changes that come with maturity.

Mr. Heptig presented the financial report and the Golf Management report, which are attached. The end-of-year results for the golf operation were pretty spectacular, as revenues exceeded a million dollars, and the rounds played were more than 68,000. This was the highest number of rounds played since 2003. He also reported that he will be escorting a group of 200 people to Nuevo Vallarta in Mexico for more golf fun. Not all the people who go on the trip are golfers. Many of the participants go for fun in the sun, bridge, reading, exploring, and serious lounging. It was noted that this trip fills up fast and is usually announced in August.

Staff  
Reports

Mr. Swint presented the Golf Course Superintendent's report, which is attached. He continues the monumental job of managing what the elements throw at the course. From super dry to super wet, each season brings a tremendous challenge. Mr. Swint reported that water usage met all the restrictions for the year. Work on the course continues to presume there will be water shortages and what water is available will be more expensive. Reductions in East Bay Municipal Utility District water use is an essential part of the plan. In the meantime, recovery efforts are underway for the Primary Turf Area. Seed, sand, and soil conditioners are all part of getting the course healthy. The Primary Turf Area is that area that will still be watered. Other areas will receive mulch treatment.

Mr. Heptig noted that many golf courses in the area had not adjusted to the restrictions and demands called for under drought conditions and have suffered or closed. Rossmoor has been working on the drought adjustments for several years now and it is paying off. The key, as in life, is balance. Reducing areas of play that are not essential and configuring the golf course to look sharp with the use of defining elements that do not require water.

Mr. Nitta indicated things are quiet on the course during the rains. He then presented the name of Rossmoor resident Margo M. Dutton for approval by the GAC as a new Marshal.

Chief  
Marshal's  
Report

A motion was made, seconded and CARRIED to approve Margo M. Dutton as a new Marshal.

Approval of  
New Marshal

An interesting note: Ms. Dutton is also the owner of a trained Australian Shepard named Abby who is used as part of the approved goose mitigation effort. Abby's services are provided at no cost to GRF. Thank you, Margo and Abby!

The "All Clubs Project" was introduced by Mr. Roath, who has been working on coordinating an effort to explore how the Clubs might be able to participate in golf course improvement projects. He described the plan to contact the Golf Clubs and get a sense of what each one might be willing and able to do. This effort is being coordinated with the Pro Shop. A progress report will be included in next month's agenda.

All Clubs  
Project

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Adjournment

The next regular meeting of the Committee will be held on Friday, February 12, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room at Gateway Complex.

Next Mtg.  
2/12/16

  
John McDonnell, Chairman  
Golf Advisory Committee

JM/kv