

IRONHORSE

Golf Club



GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE

May 29, 2003 – 5:30 p.m.

Committee members in attendance were Dick Fuller (chairman), Jim Dickson, Charles Lewis III, Bobby Davidson, Mike O'Connell, Councilman Scott Gulledge and John Campbell. Chris Claxton, Parks and Recreation Director, Laurie McCauley, as well as Pete Spratlin, and Shane Gardner of IRONHORSE.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Charles Lewis to approve the minutes from the April 3, 2003 meeting. Mike O'Connell seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

General Operations Report

Shane reported that the month of May year-to-date is right on target. As far as income as a whole, memberships are up. They have sold 12 – 14 Jr. Triple Crowns, which their goal was twenty. They have sold more of the Triple Crown than planned. The general fee revenues are down as a result of the bad weather on weekends. Expenses are under for the year. The tournament rounds are doing really good and there are a number of events coming in June.

Mike O'Connell asked who is the competition for the events. Shane said it was Loch Lloyd and Lions gate. Many private courses are opening up for public events to increase their revenues.

Shane said that the flash emails are ready to go and will take place in June along with the radio advertising. There will also be some Internet specials. Shane said that the National Golf Association reported that rounds of golf had dropped in our area 7.25%, but golf courses are continuing to get built.

Shane and Jim Dickson talked about Hallbrook shutting down their golf course for major repairs and the effect it would have on Ironhorse. Shane said that they have presented some options to work with Hallbrook.

Shane said that everyone loves the new golf cars. He said that because of the economy, they have lost volunteers. They are looking for more people.

John Campbell asked about booking tee times on-line. Shane said that when we get a new software system people would then have that option.

Course and Project Update

Pete reported that golf course conditions are very good. They are having to do lots of mowing. Pete said that because the spring was so mild, the roots are a little shallow and they will have to do more watering. They are hauling sand to the bunker at #17, the left bunker at #16 and have rebuilt the right hand bunker at #2. Dick Fuller asked how #4 and #6 are holding up. Pete said they are doing great and that the back of #13 is doing well. There is a house built on #5 that shades the green and he is expecting some damage. Pete said that in regards to #13 tee box, he would like to rebuild and raise it 3 feet, due to continuous drainage problems from the resident on the corner.

Discuss Fee Strategies for Debt/Operations/Capital

Lou Rasmussen brought up at the last meeting (April) that the current budget assumption is that the golf course support the debt service, operations and capital expenses. Lou recommended that we cover debt service and operating costs. Bobby Davidson discussed the housing development surrounding the golf course and the revenues brought into the City from property taxes. Scott Gullledge said that the golf course is the only Enterprise Fund within the City of Leawood. John Campbell wanted to know that if we had reserve in funds are we still bound by the approval process regarding expenditures. Jim Dickson discussed building up a reserve fund. Dick Fuller suggested that we move our June meeting up and table this motion. Bobby Davidson made a motion to table the discussion. Jim Dickson seconded. The topic is tabled till the next meeting. Bobby Davidson wanted to know if we could refinance the golf. Chris said that we have already refinanced once. Chris suggested that it be clarified with finance about any “reserves” resulting from the potential of the City paying the debt allowed to stay in the enterprise fund or would it go back into the general fund. Chris will check with Kathy on that issue.

Orion Contract Extension

Chris reported that the City Administrator is looking to exercise the one year option (for 04) on Orion’s contract. Dick Fuller suggested that we table this issue until Mike Gill and Lou Rasmussen are present. Dick Fuller said that it is a 3-year contract and on 12/31 it goes to a 1-year contract (extension). The City is requesting Orion to make certain changes and amendments to the contract relating to the sales tax collection. Scott Gullledge wanted it on record that Orion is doing a fantastic job. Dick Fuller made a motion to table this issue until the June meeting. Bobbie Davidson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Misc.

Chris met with Continental, Joe Johnson and Councilman Bussing to review their preliminary recommendations on the #13 PES study. Basically they have come up with an alternative that will have minimal impact on the golf course. They are proposing to take it to the County. The

Continental plan is about \$900,000.00 for the total project, which we are responsible for 20%. They will follow-up with an evening public meeting with Public Works.

Dick Fuller, Jim Dickson and Bobby Davidson met with Fred Merrill, Jr. who has taken over the development of Iron Horse Centre. They went to the City with a plan that modified the plan that was approved by the planning commission. The change is that they took 2 one-story buildings and made it into 1 two-story building. There was a concern regarding the retaining wall that it should be built upfront. Merrill said they would do it as they went along. Scott Gullledge felt that at the Council meeting when they approved the preliminary site that the wall should be done upfront. Dick Fuller said that he told them that whatever was approved by the City is what they would agree to as a subcommittee.

Jim Dickson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Charles Lewis seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Claxton, Director
Parks & Recreation