

IRONHORSE

Golf Club



GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE

November 20, 2003 – 5:30 p.m.

Committee members in attendance were Dick Fuller (chairman), Councilman Lou Rasmussen, Bobby Davidson, Jim Dickson, Dave Fearis, Charles Lewis III, Mike O'Connell and Bob Reid. Chris Claxton, Parks and Recreation Director, Pete Spratlin, Shane Gardner and Matt Roberts of IRONHORSE were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mary Lynn Garcia, Bob Henderson and Linda Thompson, residents from the Reserves at Ironhorse introduced themselves to the committee. Also in attendance was Mark Klein from Planning and Development.

A motion was made by Bob Reid to approve the minutes from the October 30, 2003 meeting. Lou Rasmussen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Discussion of Aeration for the Irrigation Lake

Dick Fuller went over the concerns from the last meeting of the neighborhood. Lou Rasmussen and Pete Spratlin prepared a document that listed the concerns and possible solutions for the duckweed on the irrigation lake. It was tabled last meeting for everyone to review the document and make any changes, addendums or suggestions.

Pete said that the lake pump is helping, but it is also burning up the pump from running so much. He said that he also received a \$900.00 electrical bill versus a \$200.00 electrical bill. The duckweed is responding to the colder water temperature. Pete said that he is still gathering information from other golf courses in town. Other courses are treating their lakes with chemicals, which we cannot do because it is irrigation water for the course. Pete said that he would recommend a fountain and four diffusers in the lake. Pete said that the only thing that will likely be resolved is the algae. He has not spoken to anyone that has said that the fountain and diffusers would get rid of the duckweed. The fountain and bubblers would cost around \$6,000.00.

Dick Fuller said that the committee discussed first treating the lake with chemicals to get rid of the algae, second to put the bubblers and fountain in the lake in hopes to limit the duckweed and also to put some grass carp in the lake. The carp would cost about \$35.00 a piece. Dick Fuller talked about the duckweed dying and sinking to the bottom of the lake and the possibility of it being sucked into the pump.

Pete talked about the nitrates coming into the lake from the storm drainage in the neighborhood, which have helped to increase the weed problem.

Bob Henderson talked about a document from Ryan Higby, a K-State Extension agent. In his article, Mr. Higby said that applying the herbicide and then waiting 14 days before irrigating would wipe out the duckweed. In conjunction with the grass carp it would be the most effective method of controlling this problem.

Jim Dickson talked about the aerification of the lake and not knowing if there would be any impact on the duckweed. He is in favor of spending the money to try to resolve the problem.

Dick Fuller said that they can treat the algae and that they need to find a way to control the duckweed with the combination of treatments, aerification and the fish. Dick Fuller made a motion to go forward with the treatments, spend the money for the bubblers and fountain and put the fish in the lake.

There was discussion regarding the cost of the pump/bubblers (\$6,000), the fish (\$1,000) and the increase of the KCP&L bill. Lou Rasmussen said that the study they prepared, lays out the capital requirements and the operating requirements. He said that the budget for 2004 is fixed. He feels that because this is an aesthetic issue and does not affect the operation of the golf course, he cannot personally recommend doing anything without some support from the homeowners association. He recommended putting it on the 2005 capital improvement budget.

Dick Fuller feels that it is an aesthetic issue for the golf course, because it is so unsightly. He recommends that the funds be found to treat the problem in 2004. Bobby Davidson felt that if we are going to make some kind of a recommendation, that we would like to see some participation from the homeowners association. Chris Claxton felt that Orion should list the detrimental effects the lake problems either do or might have on the golf course. She also said that perhaps we could go ahead with the treatment of diequat and the fish to start with to see what affect this might have. Lou Rasmussen recommended that we wait to hear back from the homeowners association on their contribution and to vote this issue into the 2005 capital improvements budget. Chris said that Councilman Gullede would be in favor of finding the funding to solve this issue as soon as possible. Dick Fuller suggested that we proceed on the discussion to find funds and wait to hear if the homeowners are willing to contribute.

Course and Project Update

Pete said that there has been no vandalism since Halloween night. They have rebuilt the bunker in the center of #11 fairway. They are rebuilding a bunker a week. They have completely rebuilt

the bunkers between the chippers. They leveled 13th tee drain. Pete said that they are doing a lot of mowing and blowing of leaves, cleanup and winterizing.

Discussion of Don Bell Property

Mark Klein from Planning presented the information regarding a piece of land that was not included in the development of Mission Reserve and Mission Valley. Don Bell owns this piece of property, and he wants to split this piece into two lots and sell them. Mark Klein said that they proposed a 30' access easement for the City's use. Lou Rasmussen asked that if this piece of land is going to be replated, that the new plat goes along with our normal covenants. Mark Klein said that in their staff report for the Planning Commission on Tuesday, that they did include the fencing requirement, the liability clause, the 25' setback and the 30' access easement. There would also need to be a movable gate. Charles Lewis made a motion to recommend accepting the plan (with 30' easement) as long as it meets the stipulations of the fencing requirement, the liability clause, the 25' setback and the 30' access easement. Mike O'Connell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dick Fuller said that in our past minutes, there was discussion as to the specifications of how the pipe on this property should be placed in the creek and that it was not done to those specifications. Chris will continue to follow up with David Ley and Tom Klotz from Public Works on the issue.

Discussion of Stone Bridge Location

There are two locations that were initially being considered to relocate the bridge to- #11 and #18. On #11 the bridge is too short and too wide. Placing it there would require a lot of costly construction and closing of the fairway for a while. The other possibility is #18 and they would have to have more rock in order to build the bridge. Lou Rasmussen made a motion to cancel having the bridge located at Ironhorse. Charles Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried. It was recommended that another location be found in the City.

2004 Business Plan and Fees

Lou Rasmussen said that the 2004 capital improvement schedule is locked in. The Special Parks fund financed this. It is now time to look at the 2005 recommendations for capital improvement and the equipment replacement schedule. Lou Rasmussen recommends that we add the aeration equipment to the 2005 capital improvements budget. Mike O'Connell said to make it subject to there not being an allocation in 2004. Chris said that whatever is put into the business plan needs to match what is turned in for 2005. Lou Rasmussen said that we would put a hold on prioritizing the capital improvements schedule for a month.

Pete said that he had to make an amendment to add the 2004 equipment to the 2005 equipment replacement schedule. These are the prioritized items that were not approved during the budget process last year. Lou Rasmussen said that the City as a whole is trying to come up with a 5-year plan for scheduled equipment. Lou Rasmussen suggested that we add a 3rd page to the business plan that states our estimated 5-year equipment replacement plan.

Lou Rasmussen expressed concerns that the Triple Crown Club was eating up our primetime, and do we have any statistics that show that the Triple Crown Club is advantageous. Shane said that they would research the issue during the off-season.

Lou Rasmussen was shocked at the elimination of the women's league. Dick Fuller said that they should move both leagues to Tuesday, which would allow more flexibility of use of Wednesday as an event day.

Dave Fearis felt that we are not marketing the growth of women's golf. Matt Roberts said that the first thing to do is get the women to the golf course. Second, we have the practice facility for the women but not the course because it is a difficult course.

Dave Fearis asked about using the Lodge at Ironwoods for big parties. Matt said that they are going to work with Chris and her staff.

Dick Fuller asked if they were on schedule for the 34,897 paid rounds per year-end projections. Dick indicated if that was correct, should we in a down year, budget more than 32,500 for 2004. Matt said that they were on schedule for paid rounds although some of those rounds were trade offs, however they still felt they would prefer to budget a lower number given today's economy.

Dick Fuller made a motion that we accept the fee schedule for 2004. Dave Fearis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Misc.

The committee will try to meet on December 18, 2003.

Bobby Davidson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lou Rasmussen seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Claxton, Director
Parks & Recreation