

Frederick Peak Golf Course Board Meeting

Special Meeting

Frederick Peak Golf Course clubhouse

July 27th, 2023

A special meeting of the Frederick Peak Golf Course Board was held on July 27th, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. at the Frederick Peak Golf Course clubhouse, the same notice of meeting was given according to law. All of the proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the public. A public Information Agenda Packet was available at the public information table. Notice of Open Meetings Act was provided as required by law.

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 pm by President Balliet.

All board members were present. Also present were club employees Jacob Fuehrer and Megan Hawthorne.

Renning made a motion to approve the past minutes. Hernstrom seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

In clubhouse agenda items, there was one new membership to review. A corporate membership for St Francis Indian School was approved 5-0.

In grounds news, Fuehrer reported that all was good. The pond is better than last year, but still not perfect. All the equipment is running except for one of the rough mowers.

In pricing discussions, discussions were had about every level of golf and cart sales to prepare for the budget and the next fiscal year. Annual cart members do not need to be changed. Fuehrer proposed getting rid of the associate membership classification. Individual memberships should stay the same. It is proposed that corporate memberships will increase to \$4,000 annually with a limit of 10 people and no golf cart restrictions. The cart limitations are hard to track in the current structure. It is possible to require a letter or representation at a board meeting from any business wishing to purchase a corporate membership to prevent fraud. In greens fees and cart fees, Fuehrer proposes removing the weekday rates. The \$2 difference between 10 and 20 holes does not seem to make much sense to the board. The fees will be increased to offset the potential addition of GPS units to the golf carts. The proposed price structure will be \$30 for 10 holes with no cart, \$40 for 20 holes with no cart, \$50 for 10 holes with a cart, and \$60 for 20 holes with a cart. None of these proposals were voted on. Formal price changes will come during the off-season.

In future capital expense decisions, the board discussed adding GPS units to the golf carts. Fuehrer received quotes from TagMarshall for \$13,730 a year. The club employees really want GPS units on carts to track them, to geofence certain locations, and to be able to message carts. Golfers would benefit from GPS yardages and direction. McCauley asked if it was possible to demo a unit before we purchase, and if TagMarshall would come install the units. Fuehrer said he would look into that. Several quotes had been received for an addition to the northeast corner of the clubhouse building for a simulator room. It would also have a garage door to be able to hit outside towards the driving range. The quotes came back at \$59,000 from Jansen and \$40,000 from Elliot. It was agreed upon that it would take a long time to make that amount of money back and that the simulator isn't used enough to justify that addition right now. It may be best to look at that again in the future when the course expands to 18 holes. Next, Fuehrer laid out the major tools and equipment that he feels the golf course needs for the next fiscal year. He has quotes for a new Toro Sandpro for \$15,200. He needs a designated vehicle to drive around town on City business, and he proposed a street legal side by side unit that could also drive on the course. He received quotes for a John Deere HPX for \$24,000 or a Polaris for \$15,700, \$19,300 with a full cab. He also sees the need for an on site weather station, and received a quote from Spectrum Technologies for 2 weather stations for \$8331. Lastly, he would like a mower for the skid loader to mow thick rough areas for \$7500. Decisions on what to buy will be made after the budget is finalized.

In the future of the Clubhouse manager position, the Clubhouse Committee (Hernstrom and Getty) proposed returning the position to a full time, salaried position with benefits. Clubhouse manager Hawthorne voluntarily excused herself from the meeting. The primary advantages, presented by the committee, are the abilities to attract and retain talented individuals to manage clubhouse operations on a year-round basis. The past few seasons have been a revolving door of individuals. The clubhouse is busier than it has ever been and has become a popular meeting point for members of the Valentine community in all seasons. Currently, the position is seasonal and paid hourly. Adding benefits to the position will add \$25,656 to the budget.

The golf course salaries budget could increase by \$7,000, based on numbers provided by Fuehrer. The clubhouse committee recommends a payscale starting at \$19.79 and rising to \$23.64 in 3% increments. This will allow the position to be competitive within the Valentine labor market and the larger golf industry labor market. The position will be salaried based on a 2080 hour work year. After the presentation and discussion, Getty motioned to approve. Balliet seconded. The motion to move the Clubhouse manager to position to full time carried 5-0. It now goes to the City Council.

Next came the budget preparations for the next fiscal year. Fuehrer, Hawthorne, and City Manager Shane Siewert had done much of the preparations before the meeting. The board went through each budget item line by line to estimate how the current year will end and what the following year will be. While expenses have been higher than expected, the golf course is on pace for \$63,000 in net revenue this year. In the next fiscal year, the course is projected to clear \$8985. The budget was made to reflect increased expenses for GPS units in carts, changes in salary and benefit structure, and major tools and equipment. It was determined that only one weather station would be necessary. Hernstrom motioned to approve the new budget. Renning seconded. The budget motion passed 5-0.

At 6:44, with no further business, Getty motioned to adjourn. Balliet seconded. Carried 5-0.