

City of Hudson  
Golf Advisory Board  
October 21, 2014

Attendance:

D. Hanink, R. Kadish, T. Wash, M. Zeleznik, G. Andrego, L. Fowler, J. Knoblauch, J. Hoover, T. King, D. Smith

Mr. Wash called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. in the Ellsworth Meadows meeting Room.

Mr. Knoblauch presented the financial statement from January 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014. He stated that rounds were still down compared to 2013 due to the cold snowy spring. Mr. Smith said that he was pleased with the financials considering the weather that was seen. He said that weather patterns are not as predictable as years ago and that this is the new normal. Mr. Hoover wanted to know if staff tracks rain/ snow days. The staff does use this data to assist in forecasting.

Mr. Wash commented on the course condition, and that it has been another good year for course conditions. Ash tree work has begun and staff is continuing to remove safety concerns and high play areas where damage may impact play and safety. City Arborist Tom Munn has applied for grant funding for removal of ash trees and will know in spring of 2015 on the status. He also secured grant funding for the planting of 50 trees that will take place this fall to replace needed species. The city will also be planting a memorial tree for former councilman John Jeffers sometime in 2015. Mr. Wash also mentioned the possibility of a hotel being built just west of the golf course. He added that if this does happen, that a partnership might be a great way to have a "stay and play" package to increase play at the course. The board felt this was a great idea and to work with City engineer to possibly accommodate access for golfers to the golf course. Mr. Smith asked on the damage from golf carts due to weather and lack of paths. Mr. Wash said that it is a constant ongoing maintenance need. Rutting occurs during heavy rain and repairs are a challenge. The paths are a need to reduce lost income but also for the aesthetics of the course as well. Mr. Hanink would like an assessment of damage cost and lost revenue to best determine return of investment if path installation is to occur. Staff will get those to him. Mr. King agreed that the damaged areas from cart use are a major eye sore for such a well maintained course.

Mr. Andrego said that there has been an increase of no show golfers especially on weekend mornings. The thought of prepaying for groups over three might be needed to combat this trend. The Board agreed that a policy might be needed. Staff will develop something over the winter months along with the Finance Director. Mr. Andrego also mentioned that the thought of raising rates but giving a discount for booking online. Those that book online seem to be more committed to the tee time and less likely to not show which will also aid the previous issue. The Board also thought this may have merit and would like follow up in the spring.

There were no other questions.

The meeting was adjourned at 9am.