

City of Hudson
Golf Advisory Board
October 15, 2013

Attendance:

G. Roth, J. Hoover, R, Kadish, T.Wash, M. Zeleznik, G. Andrego, L. Fowler, J. Knoblauch

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, 2013 through September 30, 2013.

Mr. Knoblauch commented that the rounds of golf were flat primarily due to weather. In spite of the weather, rate increases this season allowed revenue to increase slightly over 2012. Mr. Roth noted the parks fund was at \$75,000 and would the balance of the \$100,000 be added by the end of the year. Mr. Knoblauch said that yes it would be as the funds are added monthly. Mr. Knoblauch also noted that the cash balance would be used later this year as the debt is paid in December. Mrs. Zeleznik commented on the rain days as they were significant enough to close the course for days at a time and others with no riding cart use.

Mr. Wash gave a report on the status of the golf course. He said that although there were some wet stretch's that the course was in great shape this year and healthy going into this winter. Aerification was completed two weeks ago and healing well. Many good comments about the conditions at Ellsworth were noted throughout the season. The new golf cart fleet will be delivered soon, after some legal changes are made to the finance and maintenance agreements. Asphalt grindings continue to be added to various areas to achieve the goal of continuous cart paths. Mr. Roth commented that a more permanent process needs to be implemented as even though the gravel is an aid, it is a distraction from the overall perception of the course. Mr. Wash said they are looking into alternatives and paving options. Mr. Hoover said more funds need to be allocated to paving issues at the golf course.

Mr. Wash explained that more drainage is added to the course each year. The concentration has been in high traffic and heavy play areas. This will continue for several years, until there is a comprehensive drainage system in place. Mr. Roth commented on the noticeable improvement in the newly drained areas.

Mr. Wash also noted that the course will be working with City Arborist Tom Munn to establish a tree replacement program due to the large number of Ash, Wild Cherry and Cottonwood trees on the course. Mrs. Kadish asked how the Audubon golf program was going. Mr. Wash said that they are still in the inventory stage. She stated that if the course needed any help she would be happy to assist and would like the golf course to present their process at next year's Green on the Green.

Mr. Andrego spoke on the matter of the potential for an affordable golf launch monitor. This machine is used in custom club fittings. Until now monitors have run as much as \$25,000. The low option available is \$3000. Mr. Andrego said that in order to increase club sale, new technology is needed. He also said that with this type of hardware and one of the nicest quality practice facilities in the area we have the potential to make an impact on our merchandise sale. Mr. Roth was concerned that the price was too good to be true and wanted staff to research the product more fully. Mr. Hoover felt if the product works well it should be good enough to make a

difference. He also stated that he would like to work in an option that if necessary we would be able to upgrade without penalty. He also stated that if the Taylormade Co. would get a big name PGA player like Jason Day to come out at the time of the Bridgestone Invitational that the more expensive unit may pay off. Mr. Andrego said that h e will look into the options in more detail. Mr. Roth and Hoover also felt that a more permanent driving range hitting stall and training room is needed to fully increase the potential of golf club and practice facility use and sales.

Mr. Roth asked if the golf course was affected by the 29 hour stipulation for health care. Mr. Knoblauch said that the course and parks were not affected with the seasonal employees.

With no other questions, Mr. Wash adjourned the meeting at 8:55am