



GOLF ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
Tuesday, December 4, 2018 ~ 8:00 am
Waterview Golf Club
9509 Waterview Parkway, Rowlett TX 75088

PRESENT: Jerry Daniels, Brent Dorenbecker, Larry Glick, Brad Marshall, George Harris, Barbara Holst, Jeff Feyerherm, Jonathan Andron, Michael Daffin, Scotty Lovett

ABSENT: Becky Sebastian

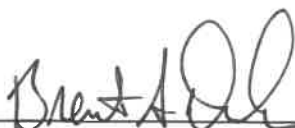
VISITORS: Bonnie Masten

STAFF: Dru Bolen, Waterview General Manager; Andy Bailey, Waterview Superintendent; Shelly Monroe, Parks and Recreation Sr. Administrative Assistant; Angela Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation; Matt Grubisich, City Council liaison; Aaron Cleaver, Parks and Recreation Business Manager; Trey Gainous, Waterview Assistant General Manager

1. Brent Dorenbecker, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00am.
2. Quorum present
3. Consider action to approve November 6, 2018 minutes.
 - A. Brad Marshall made a motion to approve the minutes as written.
 - B. Jerry Daniels seconded the motion.
 - C. Approved 5 - 0.
4. Updates from Waterview General Manager and Superintendent. (Scotty Lovett entered)
 - A. Andy Bailey spent time with two contractors checking the irrigation system. Most of the problems found were leaks and valve issues. They will start valve replacements and believe a smart plan is to isolate one hole at a time. The scoping of drains began, and repairs will start on hole #3 drain. The camera only indicates the first problem, therefore other problems can exist further down the drain lines. The list of the problems should be included in a report that will go to city staff. It would take Waterview staff several years to complete irrigation repairs due to the number of repairs needed. Work of trimming trees began. The greens are starting to firm up and described as not having much growth but gaining density. The course could be maintained with the number of existing staff but due to the amount of work needed on this course there is not an adequate number of staff.
 - B. Dru Bolen said things are set up differently from when he was previously here. A few years ago, he received multiple surveys with poor feedback but now the negative surveys have decreased, and they appear to receive more positive feedback. Larry Glick inquired about any funds set aside to improve the Par 3. Dru Bolen explained the general managers submit requests to American Golf, then projects get prioritized, although if an emergency arises then that becomes the priority.

- C. Another question asked was if there are any funds for new sand for the bunkers. Dru Bolen shared that in theory there should be funds for sand, but the dollar amount will not be known until January. Angela Smith added that the sand and bunkers will be included in the deficiency and reminded members funding is an operational topic. Brad Marshall expressed an opinion that placing sand in the bunkers now is not likely best because of all the drainage issues and structural issues needing to be addressed. Members discussed bunkers and sand.
5. Update on the Notice of Deficiency.
- Angela Smith reported that Sandy Queen with Profitable Golf LLC and Ron Matthews with Eagle view Golf were on site last week as a follow up visit. The assessment results should be received on December 14, 2019 then presented to City Council on December 18, 2019. Following these two events, results will be shared with this board. After having knowledge of this newer information, it will help to determine the future time lines. Contractors and staff are working behind the scenes and this takes time. A quote of \$450,000 was received for bringing all bunkers back to the standards but this cost does not include any improvements.
6. Update from City Council liaison, Matt Grubisich.
- A. During the City Council meeting tonight, there will be a short reception to recognize State Representative Cindy Burkett.
 - B. Positive affirmations shared about the tree Lighting program in downtown Rowlett.
 - C. The Holiday parade will be held this Saturday starting in downtown Rowlett.
7. Feedback on golf course conditions.
- A. Michael Daffin reported he received an email from a golfer who shared his latest experience at Waterview and shared this with members: no one was in the kitchen to serve drinks then upon entry to the kitchen it smelled like sewage. Michael Daffin was at the course on Sunday and although it was good weather there were few players. Trey Ganious acknowledged there was no cart person from 11am to 2pm due to staff issues and there is a refrigerator up front with sandwiches and drinks for golfers. In addition, the average daily rate has increased by \$5.00 and a new ambassador program has been implemented.
 - B. Jeff Feyerherm played 2 weeks ago and did some practice hitting. He stated the bunkers need help and there are lots of ball marks. The practice bunker has little to no sand. The course is in better shape and feels like operations are improving. Several members mentioned their unawareness that there is a refrigerator with snacks for golfers, so a suggestion was made to place a sign by the kitchen to inform golfers of this option when there is no staff in kitchen area.
 - C. George Harris mentioned the ball mark issue has been a big deal and they are trying to bring awareness to players. The Waterview staff had been working on cleaning the pond and he observed a nice change within just a day's work.
8. Discuss condition and overall rating of courses played other than Waterview, with emphasis on favorable and unfavorable comparisons to Waterview.
- A. While visiting Port Aransas, Michael Daffin shared an update on Palmilla Beach Golf Club. This course is ocean side and an 18-hole course that is being changed into a 9-hole course with a larger section for putting along with adding a top golf for entertainment purposes. Barbara Holst inserted that most families no longer have an entire day to devote to golf therefore these types of course changes will be positive, although acknowledges it is difficult for traditional golfers to grasp this change.

- B. Jeff Feyerherm played a tournament at Squaw Valley Golf course and described the course as being in excellent condition. The greens are TifEagle Bermuda grass, greens were quick and held like velcro. While playing at Buffalo Creek he was surprised with the amount of merchandise available for sale. The snack bar was closed due to remodeling. Buffalo Creek course was in average condition with similar bunker issues as Waterview and it was cart path only. There was no cart person and carts were dirty.
 - C. Jeff Feyerherm inquired if any member played at Horseshoe Bay Resort which is similar to a putt putt course except with real greens. He explained it is more of a resort activity.
 - D. Larry Glick mentioned Frisco is likely to land the PGA National Headquarters which will bring Texas its first major championship in many years. Members briefly discussed whether this will be public or private courses.
9. 2018 Avid Golfer - The Best of Public Golf Publication.
Larry Glick brought copies of the Avid Golfer 2018 for members. Waterview Golf Course was ranked in the honorable mention section. He shared a brief history of Waterview's ratings. He shared his opinion that a goal should be for Waterview to be listed in the top 15 of the East. A copy of Avid Golfer along with a summary will be provided to City Council. Jeff Feyerherm added that the #2 course listed for the West is now closed.
10. Reminder: January 8, 2019 is the next meeting.
11. Public Input.
Bonnie Masten from Broadmoor Lane in Rowlett shared her opinion that this course has potential, although there are times she has observed golfers disrespecting the course. Some of her observations were shared with members. In addition, the course was described as looking better.
12. Public Announcements.
- A. Angela Smith stated the 12 Days of Christmas program will offer daily activities from 6pm - 8pm.
 - B. Larry Glick said GISD approved the natatorium/aquatics center with plans to start construction in January 2019. This project will take approximately 18 months to complete.
 - C. JA Biz town invitations are sent twice a year to the City of Rowlett. Angela Smith explained how JA Biz Town works and the need for volunteers.
13. Members may request topics for future agenda items for the next meeting.
No topics requested.
14. Adjourned at 9:09 am.



Brent Dorenbecker, Chairman



Angela Smith, Director Parks and Recreation