

OPEN MEETING

REPORT OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOLDEN RAIN FOUNDATION COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 11, 2021 – 1:30 p.m.
Virtual Zoom Webinar

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jon Pearlstone, Chair, Bunny Carpenter, Yvonne Horton, Ryna Rothberg, Andre Torng, Elsie Addington, Debbie Dotson, Reza Karimi, Dennis Boudreau, Juanita Skillman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dick Rader

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Gruner, Jennifer Murphy, Jackie Kupfert

Call to Order

Chair Pearlstone called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

Acknowledgement of Media

There was no press present.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to move item #11 to become #10a, and by consensus, the motion was approved.

Approval of Committee Report for February 11, 2021

A motion was made, and by consensus, the report was approved.

Chair's Remarks

Chair Pearlstone welcomed everyone in attendance and encouraged all to voice concerns and/or opinions relative to community activities as set expectations are always to represent both sides of any issue. Today we are to focus only on the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions relative to the golf pre-reserved tee times. Chair Pearlstone stated he will present fee sharing research which is informative for the community.

Report of the Recreation and Special Events Director

Mr. Gruner stated staff continues to follow operational procedures while in purple tier with anticipation of moving to red tier by March 17 if numbers trend down. The Recreation

Department will modify activities as follows: opening hot pools, pickleball doubles without consent, two riders per golf cart, five golfers per round, add an additional Zumba class, and open the Equestrian riding program to boarders only. Please use caution as the virus is still able to be transmitted and/or contracted. Garden Center billing was mailed to current gardeners; tree trimming is ongoing as well as weeding; staff is working with IT with regards to assessment of the Garden Center 2 gate; Garden Center 2 speed bumps replacement is estimated at \$5000. The Performing Arts Center renovation has started with stage curtain safety (cleaning and fire-retardant reapplication) and interior house lighting.

Ms. Murphy stated the Equestrian Center improvements: 10 new shade trees have been planted near the turnouts; drought resistant plants have been planted; improved lighting including cafe lights installed in courtyards and solar lights to be installed in the large arena; stalls will be painted; the Landscape Department trimmed trees and cleaned the front of the arena and along the trail; new boarder services fees were approved; soft opening next week for riding program for those already onsite (boarders/helpers); new classes in the future. The Help the Herd fund has raised \$5865 with a goal of \$10,000 to help the GRF horses only (fly sheets, rubber stall mats, saddles, corrective saddle pads and protective boots have been purchased to date). Thank you to Ms. Cobarruviaz for ensuring the completion of these improvements. Ms. Murphy stated Pool 1 boiler is broken which will take approximately four weeks to repair. Pool 6 will be open beginning Wednesday and will remain open while Pool 1 boiler is being repaired. This decision was made in response to a survey of 410 swimmers stating that 79% of those responded would like Pool 6 open as an alternative. Due to Pool 6 being smaller staff will have to reduce the number of reservations allowed.

Mr. McCray stated a new cart fleet was installed in January. These new carts have lithium batteries which will be a cost savings and are lighter which will cause less damage on the greens. The online tee time system is to launch March 25 for April 1 tee times. Golfers will receive an informational email. Golf course maintenance is now being managed by an outside agency which is addressing the areas of concern. The golf course is much improved. The driving range project is being reviewed by the board for modifications. The allowance of in person check-in and expanded tee times will occur if Orange County remains in the red tier. Chair Pearlstone inquired as to written documentation of all these updates for golf. Mr. McCray stated an eblast will be sent to the community with another message sent when we are officially in the red tier.

Director Addington inquired as to the Garden Center 2 speed bumps removal costs. Chair Pearlstone suggested this be put on a future agenda with a staff report for complete discussion. Mr. Gruner stated the speed bumps are easy to remove. Costs would include the purchase a new style with additional cost for labor to install the new speed bumps.

Member Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)

Members were called to speak on the following: legality of equal opportunity to play golf; restriction of pre-reserved golf tee times; restoration of the greens and racquet committee for

all clubs to have a voice; the skins golf games are available to all; inquiry of an existing policy on disputes of those using same amenity; Aquadettes' formal request for pool time each week.

Chair Pearlstone inquired as to Aquadettes using the pool for slated time. Mr. Gruner stated staff makes decisions on disputes while trying to find a common ground and there is no policy in place at this time. He also stated the Aquadettes presented to the committee previously and with the current high demand of pool time we cannot make an exception for reserved pool time. Director Carpenter stated internal disputes may be addressed via compliance if cannot be resolved with the assistance of Recreation staff.

CONSENT

A motion was made, and by consensus, the consent calendar was approved.

REPORTS

Equestrian Center Arena Footing Improvement Project - Ms. Murphy presented the staff recommendation to reallocate reserve funds of \$50,000 from the approved 2020 Capital Reserve Expenditures Plan for Equestrian Turf Renovation to the proposed Equestrian Center Arena Footing Improvement Project to grade and re-surface the large equestrian riding and lesson arena and award a contract to Laser Grade of San Juan Capistrano in the amount of \$47,250.

Motion was made to approve staff recommendation to reallocate reserve funds of \$50,000 from the approved 2020 Capital Reserve Expenditures Plan for Equestrian Turf Renovation to the proposed Equestrian Center Arena Footing Improvement Project to grade and re-surface the large equestrian riding and lesson arena and award a contract to Laser Grade of San Juan Capistrano in the amount of \$47,250.

Discussion ensued.

Motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION

Laguna Woods Village Pre-reserved Golf Tee Times – This item was moved to item #10a per motion approved.

Mr. Gruner stated this is a temporary situation and staff is looking for alternative ways to open more tee times. Mr. McCray reported the background of how the decision was reached. Mr. McCray stated the issue of equity will need to be addressed as all tee times would be full. He also stated staff makes no decisions based upon what is difficult for staff as staff will manage appropriately.

A motion was made to support staff recommendation to suspend the pre-reserved golf tee times during COVID for all activities regarding requests from special groups.

Discussion ensued.

Motion passed 5-3 (abstentions).

An amended motion was made to support staff recommendation to suspend the pre-reserved golf tee times during COVID for all activities regarding requests from special groups EXCEPT where a prior resolution has been passed.

Discussion ensued.

Motion failed 2-4-1 (abstention).

An amended motion was made to support staff recommendation to suspend the pre-reserved golf tee times during COVID restrictions and for all activities regarding requests from special groups except where prior resolutions have been passed with the exception of the Tuesday skins game only.

Discussion ensued.

Motion failed 1-4-3 (abstentions).

A motion was made to support staff recommendation to suspend the pre-reserved golf tee times during COVID for all activities regarding requests from special groups except where a prior board approved group has been approved.

Discussion ensued.

Motion failed 2-4 (abstentions).

An amended motion was made to support staff recommendation to suspend the pre-reserved golf tee times during COVID for all activities regarding requests from special groups except the sanctioned golf clubs.

Discussion ensued.

Motion passed 6-2 (abstentions).

Staff was directed to complete a full study and make a recommendation on how this will best balance the community going forward after COVID restrictions then present to CAC for

review. Mr. Gruner stated staff will look for a long-term resolution for these pre-reserved tee times.

Tennis Court Resurfacing Project - Director Carpenter requested an update. Mr. Gruner stated at this time staff was directed to provide a staff report with all details to the April M&C meeting. Chair Pearlstone stated there is little extra cost to resurface. Director Carpenter stated some courts have cracks and inquired about resurfacing all at same time versus selected courts. She also inquired as to the impact to the schedule of completion. Mr. Gruner stated his recommendation is to have all courts addressed in the same manner to ensure same level of play and same safety standards.

Updated Outdoor Activity List – Mr. Gruner stated all activities are status quo until Orange County is at the red tier. Chair Pearlstone referred the committee members to the reopening safely guidelines within the agenda packet and stated more activities may be offered once restrictions are lifted.

Shared Fee/Financial Analysis Update - Chair Pearlstone stated this will be presented at the April 8, 2021 CAC meeting.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Removal of Garden Center 1 Office Building - Staff was directed to keep this item under Items for Future Agendas.

Long Range Plans for Outdoor Activities – Staff was directed to keep this item under Items for Future Agendas.

Garden Center 2 Access Gate – Staff was directed to keep this item under Items for Future Agendas.

Garden Center 2 Speed Bumps – Staff was directed to present a staff report for the next CAC meeting.

CONCLUDING BUSINESS

Committee Member Comments

Director Torng stated the pre-reserved times can be arranged once extra times are available and thanked Chair Pearlstone for his hard work today.

Advisor Boudreau stated he is amazed the entire pre-arranged golf tee times will be removed. Director Addington stated her abstention was sincere. She stated there are two sides to the issue.

Director Horton stated she may have misunderstood and inquired as to canceling everything. Chair Pearlstone stated he will keep this issue alive and remain interactive with staff. Programs will be reinstated once allowed.

Director Carpenter stated the decision for pre-arranged tee times will create more issues.

Director Dotson stated she changed her votes to abstention due to inadequate explanation.

Mr. Gruner recommended to leave the Tuesday and Wednesday games as is and only address the skins games.

Director Karimi inquired as to how large a problem will be created for the Recreation Department if amended motion passes. Mr. Gruner stated the amendment will be much more manageable than omitting all pre-arranged tee times.

Advisor Skillman inquired as to the number of men's golf clubs and women's golf clubs. Mr. Gruner stated there are four golf clubs. Tuesday is women's day and Wednesday is men's day.

The final vote states golf clubs will keep current tee times while the skins games will call or use online reservations until further notice.

Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the GRF Community Activities Committee will be held at 1:30 p.m. via the Zoom Webinar platform on Thursday, April 8, 2021.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

Jon Pearlstone

Jon Pearlstone, Chair