

Melrose Park Commission Meeting

August 10, 2005

**Present: Sue Cann Mike Interbartolo, Bob Christiansen, Henry Hooton, John Mercer, Tom Friel,
Mike Farrell, Nick Gove, Chuck person and Joan Bell**

The first hour of the meeting was scheduled as an open meeting for public participation; the Commission was interested in feedback from residents, members and golfers, as to how they felt G.M.C. has been performing under their contract. The Commission is working on a performance evaluation and thought it would be helpful to them to hear from groups that are vested in the course.

I. Meeting Opened for Public Participation

1. Bill Petrino, 207 First St. in Melrose Bill is a Sr. Member and is upset that the course is sending players off the 10th hole on the mornings the Sr.'s have reserved. The Sr. Members agreed to move their start time from 7:45am to 7:00am so this sort of thing wouldn't happen. Bill would also like to see yardage markers on all of the holes.

2. John Ragucci, 25 S. Mountain Ave. Melrose

John wanted if noted the course looks beautiful, he has never seen the greens in such great shape. John is thrilled with so many youth programs. John's only negative comment is speed of play is slower than it has usually been.

3. John Stanley, 145C Pleasant St. Melrose.

John would like to see the 6th hole fairway run up to the green and he wanted to know when the clubhouse was getting AC?

4. Frank Simonetti, 33 Perkins St., Stoneham

Would like the Commission to consider Sr. golf carts rates for next year, and also added the course has never looked better.

5. Deb Place, 26 Phillip Cir. Melrose

Deb Sees lots of goods things happening around the course. She loves to see all the youth programs that are available for the kids in the city.

6. Bob Kershaw, Ravine Rd. Melrose

Bob stated course has never looked better he would like to see the course become a 71 or 72 par by making the 7th hole a par 4, 11th hole a par 5, and the 15th hole a par 5.

E- Mails received ranged from play has been slower to the course has never looked better.

Responses Mike I. received were: complaints from leagues about being bumped for tournaments. The leagues would like a better system to notify them when tournaments are booked on their days.

Reponses Bob C. received: compliments on the 19th hole food and menus.

Motion: By Mike Interbartolo to accept the minutes as amended

Second: By Henry Hooton

Vote: Unanimous

IV. Mount Hood Report

Motion: By Henry Hooton to change the order of the agenda to the Melrose Road Race request followed by First Pond Clean up Efforts and fencing issues.

Second: Bob Christiansen.

Vote: Unanimous

A. Mount Hood

1. Request from the Melrose Running Club Road Race

At the July meeting, some of the Commission's concerns were the liability issues surrounding the race. Melrose Running Club president Brian Slater stated the club has a million dollar general policy that can name a third party.

Motion: By Mike Interbartolo to approve Melrose Running Clubs request to hold the road race at Mt. Hood pending Nick, G.M.C. and Brian working out the details.

Second: Henry Hooton

Vote: 4, in favor 1, opposed

2. Update on efforts regarding the clean up of First Pond

\$4,200.00 of the \$4,500.00 needed for the first part of the clean up has been raised to date according to Ralph Sarni, President of the Mt. Hood Park Association. The Commission asked that Ralph make the donation check out to the City so the Board of Alderman could accept it at their next meeting. Nick will coordinate the work with the aquatic company.

3. Issues Concerning Erosion around the Driving Range Fence

The original engineer Charles Fuller who worked for the City on the project was contacted by Nick to get his opinion on what transpired. Charles Fuller gave the Commission his report and stated he thought there was a relatively easy solution. He took the Commission through his solution. A member of the conservation Commission was present and asked if a copy of the plan could be submitted to them by August 18th for their meeting. Nick and Charles are going to work on and keep the Commission informed of their progress. Charles is going to get in touch with the original contractor to see if they would be interested in doing the work. G.M.C. stated they could possibly complete the work.

V. Mount Hood Report.

1. Report on membership list for 2004 and outstanding gift certificates of Mount Hood

Final membership list was turned in at last meeting

2. Monthly Financial Report on Golf Course operation

G.M.C. reached their 900K goal on August 8, 2005

3. Marketing Plan Update

To date @24K has been spent on marketing. The ads on FNX seemed to bring increase in activity last month.

4. Report on General Operation of Golf Course

a. Report on Staffing Level.

There are 18 on staff to date.

b. Copy of Maintenance Log and Monthly Certification

A report was submitted and is on file in the Park Office

5. Report on requests for rental of club house, league play and golf tournaments

Fall functions are filling up nicely. The membership cards were mailed out.

6. Report on proposed improvements for 2005 golf season

Tom submitted an updated list to the Commission, along with a list of tree work they have done around the course with cost estimates.

The Commission would like Nick to have the Conservation Commission give their opinion on the cart paths between holes 3 & 4.

The Commission would like Nick to start to think about where he can use the prisoners this fall at Mt. Hood i.e. cleaning around the tower.

The Commission would like Nick to read the FAA lease to see if there are any restrictions as to when the tower can be open in heightened security times.

7. Progress report for new maintenance building

After a lot of discussion on why the bids came back so much higher than expected the Commission decided to price out a 40' x 80' building using the existing pad.

Motion: By Mike Interbartolo to have DiLullo Associates do a schematic plan with budget figures for a 40' x 80' building putting it on the existing pad and report back to the Commission at the September meeting

Second: By John Mercer

Vote: Unanimous

8. Status report on Capital Improvements

a. Status of HVAC Project

Contracts are in the process of being signed. Nick is waiting for LeMar to send him back some paperwork.

b. Status report on roof bids

Contracts are in the process of being signed and the roof colors are being picked out.

VI. PARK DEPARTMENT REPORT

The Commission would like to take up the Park Maintenance & Mowing Contract renewal at the October meeting. The Commission would like Nick to speak to Bob B. about the busted tennis net poles at the Tremont St. courts. Some think the damage was done by the MWRA when they came in to fix a leaking water pipe that ran through Monk Field last fall. If so they should pay to repair them.

VII. Recreation Report

a. Status Report on Recreation Revolving Fund FY 2005

Nick took the Commission through the last 3 years of the revolving account. It shows that the account had been overspent at the end of each fiscal year. The Commission understands that the money rolls over into the next fiscal year but, wants Chuck to end up in the black or balance by the end of each fiscal year. In order for Chuck to accomplish this he needs to reevaluate programs that might not be self sufficient and raise pricing or discontinue some programs.

Motion: By Mike Interbartolo to adjourn

Second: Bob Christiansen

Vote: Unanimous

