



PUBLIC GOLF COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes December 15, 2020
Webex



I. Call Meeting to Order

Commissioner Demmer called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present: David Demmer, Jenny Peterson, Noah Kramer, Jim Sandness, Dan Baumgartner, Steve Kinney, Thomas Griggs, Troy Barnette

Not Present: Tammy Sundbom

III. Approval of November 17 Meeting Minutes

Kramer tabled approving last month's meeting minutes. Second Peterson. Motion carries.

IV. New Business

A. Enger Facilities Review – Jess Peterson, Manager

Demmer shared this group will advise the City on the priorities on what needs to be done in order to create a playable course. In addition, shared the importance of involving The Friends of Duluth Public Golf for getting involved with fundraising opportunities.

Kramer stated he would like to focus on improving the business side, rather than the facilities at this time.

Barnette agreed with Kramer. Shared there are ways to involve the community for funding in order to help keep Duluth Public Golf. Highlighted the importance of the committee to define a priority list for capital improvements.

Jim Filby Williams shared there is a misunderstanding in the community that Indigo Golf doesn't include marketing. Highlighted the importance to direct the committee to focus on the assets at Enger, due to the capital assets being past their lifespan.

Griggs stated an agreement with Kramer regarding marketing needs.

Demmer questioned if it is possible to have all items listed under the Phase I Critical Improvements List on the Golf Course Facility Assessment Document renewed, totaling \$4 million at Enger. Jess Peterson indicated it is dependent on a number of financial factors. Shared it would take a multi-year strategy if there is the possibility to include the entire \$4 million dollar renewal. Demmer stated it is going to be critical for the Public Golf Committee to weigh in to prioritize the critical improvements at Enger.

Sandness mentioned the importance of having a capital budget.

Filby Williams indicated that creating a Capital budget will be dependent on the sale of Lester.

Baumgartner questioned if the golf management company has ability to fund any of the capital improvements. Highlighted the importance of improving turf conditions.

Barnette stated an agreement with the 10 critical infrastructure improvements listed within the Facility Assessment document. Referred to item 10, Remodel clubhouse (bathrooms, food service, plumbing etc.,



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questioned if the \$500,000 is enough to improve the significant structural concerns, or if more planning should be performed.

Jenny Peterson stated the challenge to place recommendations without a funding plan. Questioned if Lester should remain open while construction is taking place at Enger in order to give golfers a place to go.

Demmer motioned to make a recommendation using the 10 items within the Critical Infrastructure plan needed at Enger, using this as the plan to direct the City to start working with its partners to accomplish the goal. Second by Kramer. Motion Carries.

B. 2021 Meeting Schedule – Jess Peterson, Manager

Demmer motioned The Public Golf Committee will next meet Tuesday, February 16 at 5p.m. as well as schedule for the remainder of 2021. Kramer second, Jenny Peterson opposed. Motion carries.

V. Old Business

A. Set Agenda for next month – David Demmer, Committee Chair

Demmer requested discussion on the ten critical infrastructure improvements. Requested committee members to share ideas along with strategies.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.

IV. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 15 via Webex.