Draft

Golf Joint Advisory Committee Meeting
Notes Wednesday, February 14th, 2024,
4:00 pm BVCC and Zoom

Attendees: Jerre Barron, Dave Armstrong, Jerry Foster, Mark Deihl, Ruth Hatcher, Jeff Hendren, Tom Judson, Brad Lawrence, Jessica McCrary, Darryl Muldoon, Keith Ihms, Kimela Mullen, Gary Mertz, and Ashley Wood.

Absent: David DeGraf & Jim Estes. Mark Deihl has David's Proxy & Jerry Foster has Jim's Proxy.

Call to Order – Ruth Hatcher called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

Approval of the November 8th meeting- Dave Armstrong made motion to approve. Gary Mertz Seconded it. Unanimous approval.

Future's Cup Check Presentation- Dave Armstrong presented a check for **$6000 donation** to Darryl Muldoon. He thanked all 72 participants, Darryl, Alex, Leslie, and all their staff for their help. Darryl said donation will go to Operation 36(all levels of golfers), Junior Camp, hosting ASGA Junior Event Tournament, and help with Gravette school with uniforms and golf balls. Ruth and the golf committee thanked Dave Armstrong and his team for giving back to the community.

Course reports – See course reports. Suspend Facility reviews until April meeting.

Golf Facilities Reviews are assigned

as shown below. Country Club-

Jim Estes Dogwood/Brittany-

Brad Lawrence

Highlands-Gary Mertz

Kingswood/Berksdale-

David Degraf

Scotsdale-Jerry Foster

Tanyard Creek-Kimela Mullen

Staff Reports:

- **Maintenance – Keith Ihms**
  - Brittany tees will be sprayed.
  - Tree removal- 3 sycamores on #9 Scotsdale removed.
  - Cutting down other dead trees while courses are closed.
  - Markers, poles, all items are spruced up and put back out around March 1st.
  - Aerification on bent grass courses will be moved up into end of March.
  - Scotsdale aerification will be in June.
  - Collars are looking good from winter kill.
  - **Won Arkansas Turf Grass Association 2023 Golf Course of The Year.** They selected all Bella Vista golf courses.
  - **See Keith's 2023 Year In Review below:**

WEATHER DATA

- **Rainfall varied between courses from low of 53.25" @ Highlands to high of 58.45" @ Metfield.** Scotsdale recorded 55.15", Kingswood/Berksdale 55.96"and BVCC 57.8".
- April and November 2 driest months
- Wettest month was March with 10"
- **Hottest high temp recorded on both August 3rd and 4th @105 degrees.** August hottest month with 4 days in the 100's. We experienced a total of 6 days in excess of 100 degrees.
- From January 29th through February 1st high temps never reach 32 degrees. Nighttime temperatures were in low teens with lowest reading of 12 degrees at Scotsdale.
- Received 5+" of snow along with 2 sleet events in January.
- Scotsdale and Brittany closed 38 days in addition to all of January and February per policy. Valley courses closed a total 38 days for cold and flooding.
- **One flood event:**
  - March 24th resulting in valley courses and Scotsdale closing for clean-up and repairs a total of 8 days
  - Numerous fairways had silt/gravel deposits and tree debris removal work
  - Main irrigation line at #6 Scotsdale damaged requiring total replacement
  - Some cart path (#4 tee) and rip rap (#6 green/bridge/main irrigation line area) repairs at Scotsdale
  - Not counting POA staff labor repairs $50K
- **Repairs to winterkill all courses, most on tee surfaces and collars. Over $100K in contractor and sod cost**

CAPITAL PROJECTS COMPLETED

- Red tee box Projects at Kingswood and Highlands
- Stabilization of BVCC pump station
- Asphalt cart path repairs on Highlands
- Asphalt repairs to entrance road at BVCC maintenance facility. Cost shared with Village Wastewater and Cooper Properties
- Top-dress unit purchased for Scotsdale.

SPECIAL PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Removal of old bridge located behind 2 green Berksdale
- Construction of new DR tee back of range at Highlands

MEMBER INTERACTION:

- Dogwood and Highlands Divot Day's coordinated by Friends of Dogwood and Friends of Highlands
- Update to employee break area at Dogwood maintenance facility including new tables, chairs, stainless steel shelving donated by Friends of Dogwood.
- Wildlife enhancements at Berksdale Golf Course as part of the ongoing Audubon certification program.
- **Bella Vista POA Golf Courses award 2023 Golf Facility of Year by the Arkansas Turfgrass Association**

340 Project Update-Tunnel is cut today. Hopefully concrete next week.

- **Golf Operations-Darryl**
  - **Ryan Summers got awarded Top 50 Instructor In The Country at the PGA Show.**
  - **Finished year at 203,243 rounds.** Darryl thanked Keith, his pros, superintendents, and membership.
  - Expectations of 2024. Continue growing golf and programs. The biggest challenge will be Tanyard Creek being closed during remodel.
  - Highland's driving range club fitting and teaching will be at back of range. Back tee located at 18 tee box, for pros only.
  - Darryl will have mobile simulator set up. Schedule with Hannah at the Highlands.
  - Darryl will bring back reminders of Golf Etiquette. Pace of play, pitch mark repairs, etc.
  - Golf Expo will be on March 12th at the Rec Center from 4:00-6:00. Golf Expo is to promote the 104 golf groups.

2023 Round Report are as follows:

- 2023 rounds ended at 203,243.
  - Up by 32,386 over last year.
  - Members rounds ended at 128,089.
    - Up by 13,776 over last year.
  - Guest rounds ended at 75,154.
    - Up by 18,610 over last year.

2023 was a record setting year for golf in Bella Vista. The golf courses were in great shape (thanks to Keith and his crew), and we had good weather. I must give a huge shout out to all the golf professionals this year that have helped grow the game of golf in Bella Vista with all of the different golf programs and teaching that they do. The increase in golf rounds reflect the hard work by everyone involved. Thanks to The Futures Cup, sponsored by Dave Armstrong, Crye-Leike Realtors for the donation that allows us to fund these golf programs and continuing to show their support for the future of golf in Bella Vista. Thank you to all the golf committee members and board liaisons for

their support over the last year. Pro Shop Sales ended the year at 115% to budget. Great job by Leslie Terry and her team to bring in great products!

- Range buckets ended at 80,022 (up by 16,076 over last year)

Tournaments Alex–

- Darryl filled in for Alex. Presented 2024 Tournament List
- Darryl said tournament signups will be posted 6 weeks out on the golf update.
- Darryl is challenging each one of the golf professionals to be creative with golf tournaments.

- **General Management-Tom**
  - Hired professional consulting service called Denehy. Executive search for Keith's replacement.
  - Six interviews and have narrowed it down to 2 candidates.

- **General Committee Comments**

- **Board Liaisons-Jerre, Jeff, Jason**

- **Comments/Emails from the Public:**

- **Old Business**
- **New Business**
  - Ruth wants each committee person assigned to a course to get a group to participate in the Green's Keeper Revenge tournament on May 25th.
  - Ruth ask each committee person to attend the Golf Expo and help with setting up, greeting people, and be more visible. Meet at 3:15 at Rec Center.
  - Trade the March meeting for attending the golf expo., everyone agreed.

- **Announcements:**
  - Golf JAC Regular Meeting – Wednesday, April 10th, 2024, at 4:00pm, Boardroom.

Adjourn – Ruth Hatcher adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.