



Minutes

Parks, Recreation, Golf and Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Board

September 21, 2022

Minutes of the Parks, Recreation, Golf and Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Board meeting held on September 21, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Hybrid Meeting- Tempe Public Library, 2nd Floor Board Room, 3500 South Rural Road, Tempe, AZ. And virtual through Cisco WebEx Events

Members Present:

Shereen Lerner – Chair
Susan Carlson – Vice Chair
Sharon Doyle
James Gregory
Chris Kamper
Thomas Klabunde
Gerardo Lopez
Dayna McGrady

Members Absent:

William Banks
Albert Childress
Lisa Zyriek

City Staff Present:

Craig Hayton, Staff Liaison- Deputy Community Services Director- Parks and Recreation
Julie Hietter, Community Services Administration Manager
Bobbi Lloyd, Management Assistant II
Shawn Wagner, Deputy Community Services Director- Parks and Recreation

Guests Present:

Jake Hoselton, Grass Clippings
Jim Hoselton, Grass Clippings
Jimmy Hoselton, Grass Clippings
Connor Riley, Grass Clippings
Pete Wilson, Grass Clippings

Upon the establishment of a quorum, meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Shereen Lerner.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2022

Motion by Sharon Doyle to approve the meeting minutes of August 17, 2022 as submitted; second by Chris Kamper. Motion passed on a 7-0 vote.

Ayes: Chair Shereen Lerner, Vice-Chair Susan Carlson and Board members, Sharon Doyle, James Gregory, Chris Kamper, Thomas Klabunde and Dayna McGrady.

Absent: Board members, William Banks, Albert Childress, Gerardo Lopez and Lisa Zyriek.

Agenda Item 3 – Grass Clippings at Rolling Hills

Jake Hoselton and team from Grass Clippings were present to answer any questions as a follow up to the August 17, 2022 presentation to the board.

Questions:

- How many trees will be taken down?
- Did you look at working with existing layout and keeping as much as possible
- How much money will this cost the city now, and in the future/What is the city getting out of it
- Community based golf, how are you considering that at the price points you are at
- Is there demand to do this/If no public demand why are we doing it
- Pit-stop- high point on property with food and beverage/Not much room how are you putting it all up there
- With concern to water usage and sustainability have you considered using artificial turf in the community areas/event spaces instead of grass
- If a par 54 will high schools be able to host sanctioned golf events there
- What is your estimated playing round time?
- Concern for local golfers with accessibility to open playing times
- Understanding the desire/need for night golf and technology what can we do without major changes/did you ever consider not blowing up the course and modifying/tweaking/converting here and there
- How much topography would change?
- Any construction timelines worried about regarding overseeding
- What authority does the board hold regarding the decision?

Feedback:

- It's an opportunity for the City of Tempe and a great idea
- Love so many of the ideas and appreciate willingness to modify for community. We as a board can't control the price point since it's a business. Biggest concerns are price point, turf reduction and programming for junior golfers/high schools. Some things can be done without blowing up the course. (other members referenced back to some of this comment)
- Thanks to the team for putting focus on not just playing golf in traditional way/neutral with moving forward or not pros/cons either way
- Rolling Hills is an amazing place. Haven't talked to a single golfer who supports it at all. If price points were disclosed at public outreach wouldn't have received positive responses
- Do we need to take the current user group of golfers into consideration with prices increasing 2-3 times, losing the ones that can't afford it?
- Economy will run, success depends on who you can get to play. If they don't come you will lower the price
- Support what your doing, exciting new golf stuff to Tempe, keeping history of Rolling Hills but better

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- Great job, not sure I can support it, no demand for it, golf community is satisfied with it. Keeps cost low and golf affordable
 - It's blowing up Rolling Hills but like some of the feature's night golf, technology and innovative. Don't feel everything needs to be changed this way. Would like to see improvements without such a large overhaul

The Grass Clippings team followed up the comments and questions by stating that their vision is to revitalize and put Rolling Hills on the map for future generations. They have \$23 million dollars to invest in the course and turn it into something spectacular. Tempe is known for being entrepreneurial and innovative and hope that Tempe will not miss out on this opportunity. Grass Clippings team stated that if they lose the current golfers then they have failed.

Following due discussion, motion by Dayna McGrady to move to support Grass Clippings conceptual plan and recommend it move forward to City Council for consideration; second by Sharon Doyle. Motion tied on a 4-4 vote.

Ayes: Board members, Sharon Doyle, James Gregory, Gerardo Lopez and Dayna McGrady.

Nays: Chair Shereen Lerner, Vice-Chair Susan Carlson and Board members, Chris Kamper and Thomas Klabunde.

Absent: Board members, William Banks, Albert Childress and Lisa Zyriek.

Agenda Item 4 – Board Name Update

Shereen Lerner continued discussion from last month regarding shortening of the board name and to see if there was interest by the board members. Following due discussion consensus was not reached by the board.

Shereen Lerner asked that the item be tabled and to have the board think about it and will bring back when more members of the board are present.

Agenda Item 5 – 2022 Board Goals & Priorities

- **Evaluate opportunities for more diverse use of open spaces**
- **Evaluate opportunities for more diverse Recreation course offerings**

Agenda item tabled until next meeting.

Agenda Item 6 – Clark Park Update

Shawn Wagner presented to the board a PowerPoint presentation on the Clark Park Update.

Presentation included the following:

- Background and history
- Project overview and scope
- Project timeline
- Community garden and playground construction- phase 1
- Construction progress
 - Demolition
 - Guaranteed maximum price (GMP) 1 amenities
- Public art in the park
- Refresh Tempe/Clark Park
- Recreation and aquatics construction- phase 2
- Questions

Board members asked questions and made comments regarding the following:

- How much parking is being added as part of the project
- What phase of the project are we currently in?

Staff will provide quarterly updates to the board on construction progress. Project anticipated to be completed in early summer of 2023.

Agenda Item 7 – Future Agenda Items

- Public Art Update

Agenda Item 8 – Public Meeting Attendance, Notices & Announcements

- Community Events (list was included in board packet)

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Prepared by: Bobbi Lloyd, Management Assistant II, (480) 350-8352

Reviewed by: Craig Hayton, Community Services Director, (480) 350-5234