



# ROHNERT PARK GOLF COURSE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 5:00 PM

## Public

### 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Present:

Susan Harrow

Gerry Burr

Michael Harrow

Janis Brokaw

5:00pm meeting start

Staff Attendees: Marcela Piedra (City Manager), Vanessa Garrett (Director of Public Works), Tom Kelley (General Services Manager), Joe Hanson (Parks Supervisor), Ashley Cotter, (Management Analyst)

CourseCo Attendees: Tom Bugbee (COO, CourseCo) and Christopher Gay (General Manager, Foxtail)

Liaison attendees: Mike Thompson (Parks and Recreation Liaison), Samantha Rodriguez (mayor)

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the meeting minutes February 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bugbee had a correction regarding his staff listed on the meeting minutes.

Motion to approve as corrected: S Harrow, seconded by J Brokaw.

Motion carried by the following 4-0-0 vote: AYES: S Harrow, J Brokaw, G Burr, M Harrow, NOES: none, ABSTAINS: none.

### 4. COURSE UPDATE

Chris: Memberships are down, but Sunset memberships are up, which indicates that people are excited to practice and play. The first quarter performance showed a drop by 38% from last year's Q1 2022 rounds played. This is attributed to 34 days of rain in Q1, which has had a major impact on rounds of golf due to cold days, cart path only days, and South Courses holes #4 & #6 impassable due to creek swelling and overall wet and muddy conditions. We are hoping to rebound with some sunny days.

Tom: The rain has hit many of CourseCo's managed golf courses very hard, but we are looking forward to some good weather to get everyone back on track.

Chris: We also have some personnel changes – Matt Anderson has departed to work at a private club, and we have promoted Jason Bennett into Golf Operations Manager. He is not currently PGA certified but is working towards it. Additionally, Foxtail is hosting a community event in conjunction with Public Safety. This year's Easter Egg hunt is highly anticipated, last year about 500 people came, and 2019 was incredible.

J Brokaw: how did they advertise?

Chris: I don't know how the City advertised, we send out an email blast that goes to about 13,000 people, mostly people in Rohnert Park but it does include some people in Santa Rosa.

M Piedra: The City primarily advertises off of social media.

Chris: Maintenance has also been difficult with the storm, constantly going out to remove debris, so we have postponed aeration on both courses due to wet conditions. Because of all the rain, the greens are very healthy, so it is okay to postpone aeration. Additionally, we have started the bunker renovation project on February 8<sup>th</sup> on the North Course and have completed four holes before April. We just restarted on February 28<sup>th</sup>, holes 1-6 are done, 7&8 are in progress.

### 5. OLD BUSINESS

a. None

### 6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Spring Maintenance Report:

Tom: Early spring is acting like winter. Foxtail's crew is trying to keep it clean so that people can play. The North Course does handle the weather better. Cart paths repaired on 10&11 and look great, the Pro Shop has been uplifted and looks really good. I'm excited to go on this field trip, I tried using a drone, but that's illegal, but it's great to go see some of the things we are talking about. I also saw that dumpsters had locks on them to keep people from dropping off garbage.

Chris: the main purpose of the locks is to prevent garbage going into the wrong containers, rather than having to pick through the compost.

Tom: We also did some work on Coleman Creek, took out the obstruction. There's still so much rain that it still flooded, but not as bad as before.

G Burr: Can we discuss the fire on hole 9?

Chris: I do believe it was a homeless person. Jeff and Jason went out there, it was pretty safe. We also called Public Safety.

Tom: A gentleman lived on hole 13 – we were concerned, called up Chris, and went out there. Staff kept it clear. Having this close relationship really does benefit the residents.

Chris: There's a notable difference on the course with the new bunkers, construction is going well.

b. Field Visit to South Holes 4&6

J Brokaw: The biggest safety issues is on hole 6.

G Burr: It's walking from hole 4 to hole 6.

**7. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS & REQUESTS**

J Brokaw: Thank you for addressing the seat in the bathroom. Do we have an update on Top Tracer?

Tom B: We are waiting on permits, as soon as we can get an update, we have everyone on standby to start on this project as soon as possible.

S Harrow: The ladies' group will start to play soon.

J Brokaw: There's been vandalism in the women's bathrooms – is there a way to prevent this?

Chris: This is our first time experiencing vandalism in the women's bathroom, it's happened before with the men's bathroom. A solution would be hiding things like toilet paper, etc., from view.

S Harrow: Who is vandalizing the property?

Chris: We don't know exactly, it could be kids, or any other group of people.

J Brokaw: The bathrooms are open to the public.

Chris: Yes, they're open, and we do have homeless who come through to use the Gazebo.

M Piedra: The encampment at Roberts Lake does have porti potties.

J Brokaw: If they're out and about, they aren't necessarily using those, they'd come here to use the ones at the golf course.

Tom B: We also have this issue at other sites. There's approximately 200,000 people who utilize this site, so people off the street using the bathrooms is a relatively small percentage.

S Harrow: Do you have security cameras?

Tom B: No, they don't tend to make a difference.

J Brokaw: Is the Top Tracer equipment a concern?

Tom B: no, that equipment is pretty locked down.

S Rodriguez: What is the programming schedule for the NCAA tournament?

Chris: NCAA tournament is May 10-13. May 10<sup>th</sup> is a practice day. 7:30 tee times every day thereafter.

S Harrow: That will interfere with the Ladies' Golf day on Thursday.

Chris: This has been on the books for a while. NCAA is also looking for volunteers.

J Brokaw/S Harrow: How do we volunteer?


Chris: Volunteer registration is going through Sonoma State. Once we have the link, we will send it out.

Next meeting: July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5pm.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

M Harrow moves to adjourn, G Burr seconds, meeting adjourns at 5:23 pm, the Committee ventured out to South Course holes 4&6 to conduct a site visit.

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Vanessa Garrett, Public Works Director  
City of Rohnert Park

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Michael Harrow, Chair  
City of Rohnert Park