



Advisory Board Minutes April 7, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Kevin Loos, Kelly Barth, and Joe Caldwell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice Chair Jana Dobbs and Andy Clayton

STAFF PRESENT: Ernie Shaw, Mark Hecker, Roger Steinbrock,

GUESTS:

- I. Meeting called to order by Chair Kevin Loos.
- II. Approval of March 10, 2009 minutes.
- III. Concerns of the Board – Loos concerned about how the impact of play on EGBC if Alvamar was to privatize there course in the next couple of years or so. Shaw said that weekends would be the major problem – currently turning people away as it is on good weekends. More money we would bring in, the more we can spend on the course. We are set up cart wise for our busy times, which are the weekends.
- IV. Public Forum – Went over the agenda for the upcoming public forum. The Board will be the front-runner on this with a lot of staff to help out with questions and note taking. There will be a park staff and recreation staff in each room. Kevin will do his greeting and welcome and talk a little bit about the advisory board and what they do. Roger and staff have revamped the video from 20 minutes to 5 minutes 15 seconds. Press release was sent out April 2nd and then on April 3rd sent out to over seven thousand households via e-mail. Another one will be sent out closer to the meeting date. Have received some feedback and will probably receive more. We hope to have 100 or more people attend the forum. Mark will do a budget presentation, walk them through the budget process and show them what some of the stress points are. Question we want to ask the forum participants is “do we want to be more fee supported and less tax supported or vice versa?” Mark will show a comparison of various park divisions like Topeka, Shawnee County, Salina, etc. We rely on our own facilities versus Johnson County. County operations are totally different than City operations. Roger explained that when people come in to the forum, they will be asked to sign in and write their name down on a nametag. Each nametag will have a colored dot and that will specify which group they will be with. Ernie and Mark will be roving about to answer any questions that advisory board members or staff can't answer. A copy of the survey was given to advisory board members at this time and this will be the same survey that will be put on-line. Survey results will be sent to participants once everything is tallied. Keep your focus on the questions at hand.
- V. Staff Reports
 - a. Recreation/Golf Revenue/Expense Report – Need to thank Karen for getting the revenue reports out from Finance. Overall we are about 45% ahead of last year pertaining to EBGC, which is always good for the winter. Flip-flopped on the contractual services and commodities but we're still lower on the expenditures. This year the contractual services are higher, cart lease was paid in March versus April 2008; commodities differences is '08 we purchased a lot

more soft and hard goods for the clubhouse. We're monitoring that this year and doing a little at a time. Green fees have not been raised since 2005.

Recreation side keeps adding revenue every year (keep surpassing revenue) staff and marketing doing very well and getting the word out to people. People are wanting more activities and staying at home. Looking at reorganizing within our department -- adult/youth sports divisions as well as special events. 2010 we will be taking over the girls fast pitch softball league, plus that will be the first year that DCABA will be in the budget even though we are taking those leagues over this year.

b. Parks/Project Report – The weather is messing everything up. By April 15th the park shelters and restrooms should be up and running. Planting flowers and mulching and working on projects everywhere. We'll be mowing as soon as it warms up. Maintenance crews are doing a good job on the ball fields and ag-lime infields holding up to the wet weather.

c. Marketing Report – Activity guide coming out this Sunday, April 12th. Enrollment up 11% over 2008 – continues to increase. Bill Self golf tournament will be Friday, June 12th.

VI. Miscellaneous –

Meeting adjourned. Next Advisory Board meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 12th at 11:45 am. Pick up a box lunch and load the bus for a parks tour.