



**CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 9, 2016**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order by Chairman Kenneth Kraft at 5:05 p.m., in City Hall, Council Chambers, 2250 Las Vegas Blvd. North, North Las Vegas, NV 89030.

II. CONFIRMATION OF POSTING

Jaini Christison, Recording Secretary, confirmed the meeting was posted in accordance with NRS 241, The Open Meeting Law.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Kraft led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Chairman Ken Kraft

Vice Chairman Rick Lemmon

Board Member G. Stephen Shoaff

Board Member Gregory Smith

Board Member Delbert Leavitt

ABSENT:

Board Member Michael Flores

Member Cinthia Zermeno

CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS STAFF:

Cass Palmer, Director of Neighborhood and Leisure Services

Christopher Craft, Deputy City Attorney

Jaini Christison, Recording Secretary

PUBLIC FORUM – No Cards

Business

A. Approval of the February 9, 2016 Regular Meeting Agenda. (For Possible Action)

(Motion) Member Smith introduced a motion to approve the February 9, 2016 Regular Meeting agenda. The vote favoring approval was unanimous. The motion carried.

B. Update on Aliante Golf rate increase and remainder of the year projections. (For Possible Action)

(Motion) No motion was made.

Director Palmer stated that the previous meeting the Board approved a rate increase for Aliante Golf Course. Tim Yavello, Manager Troon Golf provided an update to the Board on the status of the increase, how it was received by the golfing community, and how the remainder of the fiscal year is looking for Aliante Golf Course.

Mr. Yavello indicated that the rate increase was affective Saturday, January 23, 2016. Mr. Yavello provided a handout with the new and old rate, increase in revenue, and dollars per round. Data covers a short time frame. The time frame also included cooler than usual weather which did hamper the number of rounds.

Feedback from the golfing community has been mostly positive. Regulars who complained were given the one round at the old rate, but all future rounds at the new rate. Many golfers voiced surprise that a price increase had not been imposed earlier.

Overall, Aliante Golf will finish with a loss despite the rate increase. The weather has seemed to hamper rounds played. Since Thanksgiving the weather has been unpredictable and affected the bottom line.

Member Smith asked what the forecasted budget short fall will be for this fiscal year. Mr. Yavello indicated even with the increase, the forecasted short fall will be approximately \$200,000. January numbers have not been added in and January was not a good month.

Member Shoaff asked if in the next fiscal year starting July 1, if rates would need to be increased again. Mr. Yavello indicated that the budget for next fiscal year was just submitted to the City included a proposed rate increase. The budget had a few factors. One is that the golf cart fleet is old and needs to be updated and expanded.

Member Shoaff asked if a cart fee for "replacement only" could be added and then those funds will be used only to replace the golf carts. Mr. Yavello indicated that cart rental is part of the green fees. In Las Vegas and most golfing communities golfers expect to use a cart when they golf. He could not see adding another \$5 per golfer for a cart rental replacement. In other golf course that he has worked, the golf carts are changed out every 3 years. The fleet at Aliante has been pushed past there replacement cycle. Mr. Yavello discussed the pros and cons of purchasing or leasing a fleet golf carts to keep carts new and operating.

Member Shoaff asked about implementing disc golf at Aliante. Mr. Yavello indicated he has been in contact with the disc golf community and they are looking at a March 15 event with a special rate of \$15 per round. Any future events for disc golf will be at \$20 per round.

Chairman Kraft asked how many golf carts do you have and how many are operational. Mr. Yavello stated there are 80 golf carts in their fleet. 14 carts are not operating. Chairman Kraft asked if he has had to turn away business because of this. Mr. Yavello indicated yes, which results in loss in revenue. Aliante is not set up as a walking course. The use of cadies is not used in this area. Most of the cliental are retirees and the expectation is to have a cart.

If Troon believes that leasing the golf carts is their preference, why are we building a budget based on purchasing a fleet.

Director Palmer indicated that all options have been reviewed. There are various factors with regards to purchase verse lease. Funds are paid up front in a purchase agreement, breakeven point is hit, utilized carts beyond the standard life of a cart and the City comes out ahead. The carts look good but are just an older style. That is the direction the City has taken.

Chairman Kraft asked what other municipalities do, purchase or lease. Mr. Yavello indicated he did not have that information. It is probably a mixed bag, some purchase and some lease.

Chairman Kraft asked what Troon is doing to generate more revenue. Troon is trying to manage expenses and trying to get carts fixed. Business has been down. Offering deals around the City on and off Strip to get more golfers through the door. It is difficult to get golfers to travel north from the Strip. Chairman Kraft disagreed with the problem getting golfers to go north to play. Shadow Creek Golf Course is MGM's course and it is located in North Las Vegas. While the dollar level of golfer is different the distance is similar. Mr. Yavello indicated that we are not in the game league as Shadow Creek. Shadow Creek is one of the top golf course Las Vegas, Nevada, and the country. Every course is fighting for the next level of tourist to come to their course and play. We are offering transportation specials, bag fee specials, and lunch specials. Offering specials to casino employees to come out and play. Taxi cab ride is \$120 round trip. Chairman Kraft asked about affiliation with Aliante Casinos and working with them on promotions and marketing. Mr. Yavello has said they have do have a working relationship with Aliante Casino and the marketing budget has been maxed out.

Member Shoaff asked how many carts are ideal. The answer was 80 carts. Chairman Kraft asked about planning for repair and down time. Mr. Yavello said in the first year don't plan for any down time until the carts get older. Chairman Kraft indicated that to have 80 carts operational everyday does not seem realistic.

Member Smith indicated that in speaking with golfers in the community the rate increase does not seem to be a concern. He asked why we cannot purchase used golf carts or what the used cart market is. Asked about the repair company and if another company could be used. Mr. Yavello indicated that the company is the only certified "Club Cart" repair company.

Chairman Kraft asked that a Aliante Golf update report be a standing item on future agendas.

C. Update on Kiel Ranch Historical Park and Preservation subcommittee (For Possible Action)

(Motion) No motion was made

Director Palmer stated the a possible Kiel Ranch Historical Park subcommittee could be formed that reports to Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) and Director Palmer who would then pass information up to the City Manager and City Council. The focus of the committee would be only on Kiel Ranch Historical Park. Member size would be around 3-5. Director Palmer made notices that the Kiel Ranch subcommittee could not consist of 3 or more members of PRAB because that would constitute a quorum.

Chairman Kraft indicated that a letter of support on Kiel Ranch was submitted from Preserve Nevada.

Dr. Sandra Cosgrove is a history professor with College of Southern Nevada. She also works for City of Las Vegas regarding historic preservation and tourism. Kiel Ranch could be used as an economic tool as a historic tourist destination. City of Las Vegas is looking to create an "APP" for tourism historical site, arts sites, cultural sites, and other City sites. She asked if a Board member would come to the City Historical Preservation Committee so that Kiel Ranch Historical site can be incorporated into this "APP".

Member Smith indicated his willingness to attend the meeting Dr. Cosgrove spoke of.

Jeff Alpert 3828 Fuselier Drive, North Las Vegas, NV 89032

Mr. Alpert is a retiree resident of North Las Vegas who has become very interest in the Kiel Ranch Historical Park. Personally educated himself on Kiel Ranch and would like to be involved in the project. Mr. Alpert invited the Board to the Aliante Library Thursday evening as he and Mr. Palmer would be presenting information about Kiel Ranch.

Chairman Kraft stated that his vision for this board would have 1 or 2 members from PRAB and public members that have a historical and education background. Chairman Kraft stated he was not sure PRAB had the authority to create a subcommittee or if it would need to be created by City Council. He would like staff to figure out the proper way to create the subcommittee. Kiel Ranch is in important site and cultural significance.

Deputy City Attorney Christopher Craft indicated the City Attorney office would assist with the process.

D. Fund raising for SkyView Multigenerational Center Gymnasium (For Possible Action)

Director Palmer wanted to let the Board know that staff has been meeting with elected officials and the YMCA about expanding the SkyView recreation center. He showed the Board a map with phase 2 of the center. The focus is on the gymnasium and the need for recreation space in the area. A total of \$21 million needs to be raised to get this project completed.

Chairman Kraft asked who would be managing this facility and expansion. Director Palmer indicated that the contract with YMCA is still in place for the next 6 years. The funding would probably need to come through several sources. Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) has always been a positive source of funding.

Member Shoaff asked about SNPLMA funding from Bureau of Land Management. Director Palmer indicated it depends on the funds available. The funds available the last few years have been smaller and public entities are restricted to 3 requests. Alternative revenue sources are needed to get all the park projects completed.

(Motion)Member Shoaff introduced a motion to accept the proposal to start fund raising for SkyView Multigenerational Center Gymnasium. The vote favoring approval was unanimous. The motion carried.

Staff Comments – No Staff Comments

Board Members' Comment

Chairman Kraft asked that we placed back on the agenda a request to move the start time of the meeting back to a later time because of a change in his employment.

PUBLIC FORUM – No Cards

Adjournment (Action Item)

Chairman Kraft introduced a motion to adjourn the February 9, 2016 Regular Meeting. The vote favoring approval was unanimous. The motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Chairman Kraft adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jaini Christison

Jaini Christison, Minutes Clerk