

The October 3, 2007 meeting of the Dundee Township Park District Board of Commissioners held at the Randall Oaks Golf Course Clubhouse was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by President Frank Scarpelli. Commissioners responding to roll call were: Jim Bonkoski, John Meschewski, Erin Peterson, and Frank Scarpelli. Craig Rakow was not present for roll call but he arrived at 7:02 p.m.

Executive Session

At 6:31 p.m. Bonkoski made a motion with a second by Meschewski to move that the Board convene into Executive Session under sections 2(c)(1), 2(c)(11), and 2(c)(21) of the Open Meeting Act for the purpose of discussing personnel, litigation, and reviewing prior meeting minutes. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Craig Rakow arrived at 7:02 p.m.

At 7:31 p.m., Bonkoski made a motion with a second by Mecsnewski to reconvene to regular session. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Approval of Executive Session Minutes

Meschewski made a motion with a second by Peterson to approve the Executive Session Minutes from September 19, 2007. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Consent Agenda

Scarpelli asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for: Approval of September 19, 2007 Board Meeting Minutes and Payment of Bills. Bonkoski made a motion with a second by Meschewski to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Staff Reports

Bonnie Dundee Clubhouse Manager Jim Opp thanked the Board for their continued support of him and Bonnie Dundee Golf Course. Things are beginning to wind down for the season. There is one last outing scheduled for Sunday. September was a good month for Bonnie Dundee Golf Course. The Friendly Fridays special brought out 215-230 players per Friday. Most of the outings scheduled for August took place. One outing that was rained out was rescheduled in September. The ladies league was very successful. Staff will try to expand on the ladies league next season. With the declining daylight hours, the five and seven hole courses are becoming more popular this fall. The fee structure will be examined by staff as the budget is being developed for next year. The Dundee Open held last weekend on Saturday at Bonnie Dundee went very well. There were a lot of compliments on the course from the participants.

Executive Director Tom Mammoser reviewed results of the Bonnie Dundee Golf Course Survey that was taken over the summer. In general, the comments were very favorable. There was positive feedback in the key areas of service, course condition and value. The pace of play is a concern as it was at Randall Oaks also. Mammoser reported that for August, golf revenue at Bonnie Dundee was down from the previous year by \$22,000. In September, golf revenue was up by \$24,000 at Bonnie Dundee. Randall Oaks was down \$23,000 in golf revenue in August over the last year and up \$18,000 in September.

September ended up being a good month for both courses, and the nice weather is continuing into October.

Superintendent of Golf Maintenance Mike Sprouse thanked Scarpelli for his assistance during the time of the heavy rains and flooding at Randall Oaks Golf Course. Sprouse explained that the last sixty days have been incredible. Randall Oaks received 17 inches of rain in August. The month of September only produced .2 inch of rain. The rainfall on August 23rd caused the worst flooding and hurt the course the most. A great deal of turf was lost. Sprouse estimates staff has sodded 25,000 to 30,000 square feet of turf in the last month. Drainage was added to holes 14, 16 and 9. Staff devoted the better part of September to restoring the golf course. Hole number 11 is being played short for the time being. A bunker on hole 15 was totally destroyed and is being redone completely. The course also suffered equipment loss. Two controllers were damaged by lightening and air compressor units were damaged by being under water. The insurance adjuster visited the course to survey the damage. Mammoser reported that the District has funds available for emergency purposes to use for restoring the course before the insurance reimbursement is received. Sprouse stated that staff has also been doing regular fall maintenance such as aerating tees and preparing for the end of the golf season. Fairway aerification will be done next spring. A big fall project that staff started today is to rebuild the bunkers on hole 18.

Director of Golf Frank Chiappa reported that September was a very busy month at Randall Oaks Golf Course. Numerous outings were held, the course hosted a high school tournament and there were two club events. One hundred players participated in the Dundee Open last weekend. The weather was great and Chiappa feels that the change in holding the tournament at the end of September has worked out well for all involved. The fall Junior Golf program was full with 33 participants. Westfield School brought a group of 90 third graders for a golf session. The Dundee Charger Invite went very well. October winds down the season and fall rates have been implemented. This is the 4th year Randall Oaks ran a fall advertisement with a price is right coupon. With the coupon the course will honor any other course's coupon for greens fee discounts. This is bringing in a good number of golfers. The golf ball drop from the helicopter worked well for the Sherman Auxiliary outing.

Director of Food and Beverage Jeff Howard informed the Board that September was a busy month for the food and beverage department. Staff handled food service for most of the September golf outings. Weddings have been solid for September and will continue throughout October as well. Mammoser stated that the snack bar revenue was up 18% for September. The department has held end of season pizza parties for the golf leagues. Howard feels this is a good public relations move that does not cost the District much and could influence a league's decision to return next year. There have been a number of occasions over the last month when there were two or three weddings per weekend which necessitated the need to use temporary staff. The group he used were very good and worked out well. Four new part time staff have been hired over the past two weeks. Staff evaluations are in the process of being finished. He is currently planning off season

projects. Menu pricing will be revised and bar prices might be raised slightly. Staff is considering doing a Breakfast with Santa this December.

Mammoser stated that there were six shotgun outings in a row at Randall Oaks which included banquet service. There were also five weddings held within that same time frame. Both the golf department and the food and beverage operation were extremely busy during that period of time. All of the customer responses during this time were positive. Therefore, the District did well financially and more importantly the District did well from a customer satisfaction aspect in all areas of the operation.

Scarpelli thanked Director of Marketing Helen Shumate for all the work she put into the tennis court dedication for Barb Lachel. He stated that the personal touches were a very nice addition. He also thanked Howard for the food and beverage service and the Park Services department for setting up the tent. Chieppa also thanked Shumate for the time she spent at the Dundee Open taking pictures. Mammoser stated that the Courier published information on the Dundee Open but there was nothing in the Daily Herald.

Mammoser asked for staff's opinion on working with the golf consultant Jeff Huseman this year at Randall Oaks. Howard stated that he feels Huseman's ideas worked well and the program is worthwhile. He believes staff will have time over the winter months to reiterate Huseman's ideas and will be able to implement even more aspects next season. Chieppa stated that of all the staff involved with Huseman, he probably resisted the program the most at first. But now he is happy to have Huseman. They keep in close contact by e-mail and phone calls on a regular basis. Opp believes it was a good experience to have someone to bounce ideas off and have someone to talk to. Sprouse stated he believes Huseman's program is outstanding. Philosophically, it has changed his mindset as to discounting. He also believes Huseman has good ideas for promotion and marketing. He believes good strides were made the first year with the program and can be grown even further in the future.

Citizens to be Heard

None.

Director's Report

1. Randall Oaks Golf Course Stormwater Update – Mammoser stated that the engineers are presently in the process of determining if a 24 inch pipe as opposed to an 18 inch pipe will be within ordinance. Sprouse stated that the engineers do not think that increasing the size of the pipe will have any significant advantage. The engineers feel that the restrictor plate holds the key to how fast the water travels through the pipe. Discussion ensued on what needs to be done to maximize the flow of water off the course. Scarpelli stated the District should determine if it needs to obtain a maintenance easement from Opus to maintain the end of the 18 inch pipe.
2. NRPA Conference Review – Mammoser reported that he attended sessions on golf, spray parks, as well as general value of recreation to the community. At

the exhibit hall he obtained contacts for golf grants, exercise equipment, synthetic turf and skate park information. Meschewski stated that the conference was very informative. He attended five sessions that were very interesting. Scarpelli attended an informative session on synthetic turf.

3. IPRA Conference January 24-26, 2008 – The IPRA conference will be held January 24-26 at the Chicago Hyatt. Preconference workshops will be held on Thursday and educational sessions on Friday and Saturday. Mammoser stated that the IPRA conference is a bit more formal than the NRPA conference. The quality of sessions are similar with more local specifics. He asked the Board to check their schedules and let him know about their attendance. Hotel reservations need to be made early to ensure room availability.

President's Report

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

1. Preview 2007 Tax Levy – Mammoser explained that the tax levy is the process the District has to go through to get money from the taxpayers. The levy is based on the EAV as well as new growth and the CPI. The District asked for a 20% increase in new growth. The actual percentage of new growth is usually 4% to 8% below that. The District cannot get a greater percent of new growth than the CPI will allow. The District needs to ask for the maximum increase in order to be assured of receiving as much as possible. Staff is checking with legal counsel on whether the District can reallocate its taxing funds. That was done last year based on legal advice but the County did not recognize that legal advice and the District had to revise the levy. It appears that there may be more flexibility within the Recreation levy this year. Scarpelli explained that any time a District asks for more than 4.99% new growth, it is mandatory that a public hearing be held. A notice of the public hearing will be published in the newspaper. Mammoser explained that the District's tax rate has gone down the last three years. Even though the levy has increased and the District received approximately \$200,000 more in funds each year, the tax rate has decreased. Mammoser stated that the tax rate will go down next year also.

Additional New Business

None.

Adjournment

Meschewski made a motion with a second by Rakow to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.