

CITY OF KINGMAN
REGULAR MEETING OF GOLF COURSE ADVISORY
Council Chambers
310 N. 4th Street
www.cityofkingman.gov

4:30 P.M.

Minutes

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Members:	Officers:	Visitors Signing In:
Frank Gurzi, Chairperson	M. Meersman, Parks and Recreation Director/Golf Course Superintendent	See attached list
David Dale, V. Chairperson	L. Carver, Council Liaison	
Joe Farner	L. Pitts, Cerbat Cliffs Manager	
Bill Fogg	K. Fogg, Recording Secretary	
Julie Moon		
Kelly Pickering		
Jim Powell		

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Commission Chairperson Gurzi called the meeting to order at [4:30 p.m.](#) roll call was taken.

Commission Members Present: Dale, Fogg, Moon, Pickering, Powell

Staff: Meersman, Yocum, Fogg

Commission Member Excused: Farner

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular meeting minutes of February 18, 2015.

Commission Member Bill Fogg made a MOTION to APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2015. Commission Member Jim Powell SECONDED and the minutes were APPROVED by a vote of 6-0.

2. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC – COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Those wishing to address the Commission should fill out request forms in advance. Action taken as a result of public comments will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or rescheduling the matter for consideration and decision at a later time pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431 et al. Comments from the Public will be restricted to items not on the agenda. There will be no comments allowed that advertise for a particular person or group. Comments should be limited to no longer than 2 minutes.

No one from the public to speak.

3. **WELCOME NEW MEMBER**

Chairperson Gurzi welcomed new member, Jim Powell, to the commission.

4. **ANNUAL ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

A Motion by Vice Chairperson David Dale to nominate Frank Gurzi to retain the position of Chairperson, the Motion was seconded by Member Kelly Pickering, Motion passed by a Vote of 5-0.

5. **GOLF PRO'S REPORT / COURSE PLAY**

Mr. Levi Pitts handed the members a packet with the new updated tournament listings.

Tournaments:

There may be a couple of possible changes, the Shirochman, he's out of Vegas and they are out of California changed the date twice due to where they stay in the hotels. AS that changes he will forward it on to Mike and then on to you.

On the Tournament list there are six who haven't confirmed their times or dates. It's either they won't be having them or they are discussing when to have them according to what tournaments are going on each month

Tournament season started up in April. We had some good weather and then we had some really cold weather. We've seen a slight increase in some and a slight decrease in others. The smaller decrease would be more for the schools which may stem upon the lack of participation amongst themselves relying on the golfing members that play the course every day to fill the field. He and Mike discussed and Levi took it to one of the booster clubs about all three schools joining together and having one big tourney but still play for each school individually. That was shot down because they didn't trust who will be taking care of the monies here, who will be doing this and who will be doing the raffles. So we're trying everything we can to condense that long list down, especially, when we're looking at only 44-48 golfers. Last weekend it was 66-80 golfers. We started out with 12 and it turned into 80 and that's just by pushing and that was from the host The United Way and from us personally in the Pro Shop and the membership that plays

on Thursdays was a big kicker to get more people involved and playing in the golf tournaments.

Course Play:

February was phenomenal, March was phenomenal, January was probably mediocre, comparatively speaking. If you look at your paper work for February, March, and April, we're on a big trend. A lot of local course would kill for that amount of rounds of golf and income coming in. We are seeing a big, huge increase in younger members coming in and paying their dues. Will that last? Sometimes it does, sometimes it doesn't. They use their tax money as a way to invest in their golf game. Some years they do, some years they don't, it may depend on what their wives say they can do as we all know. So we're seeing some phenomenal numbers. Right now he is having the girls in finance doing a comparative gross annual revenue compared to years past. Once he has that it will be available for Mike to look at and hopefully forward is on to you to see the numbers and see the increase we had this year.

Driving Range:

The numbers may be down from previous years there is a slight increase. Mr. Pitts spoke with Bob in maintenance about figuring out the 24 volt system to run a camera with a light on it. It will be a dummy light but they will have a feeling that we are watching them and we will also have a sign that says you are watched by camera.

Until this point he couldn't find the camera, after doing more cleaning in the back room found the camera. That will help us out from people bringing their own balls and hitting 15-20 golf balls then sliding over to the #1 tee box and playing golf.

A lot of the problems with the driving range is that we cannot physically see it without having somebody up there.

The maintenance guys will go by and report someone to him someone who is out there hitting the balls that don't match any other balls that we carry with old red stripes. The old Spalding golf balls they called back then. Mr. Pitts caught one individual with balls in milk crate onto the driving range. He had to tell them to go on back and took the license plate number and type of vehicle. If we see the vehicle in the parking lot or parked up by the range again, we can take care of that problem.

Member Fogg questioned the monthly activity report for March, the motor cart revenue at \$37,000, green fee revenue at \$58,000. Compared to April the green fee revenue is up \$15, 000 but motor cart down \$5,000, is there a reason why.

Director Meersman stated it's the trail fees, people pay for trail fees for their private carts at certain times.

Member Fogg said private cart trail fees are \$6,800 in April and \$4,100 in March, it doesn't make sense.

Mr. Pitts stated that they could have more walkers. That's when a lot of the older guys will come when the sun starts hitting and they will play their 9 holes sometimes 18 holes or 15 holes if sometimes they can't make 18.

Member Fogg just thought the numbers looked funny and couldn't figure out why they came out that way. If you look at the numbers of 9 hole rounds and 18 hole rounds in March, they are a lot higher than in April too. It's just confusing.

Director Meersman stated he gets them and studies them every time. You can never quite figure out how they match up. Sometimes it's due to the fact that there are more trail fees in month, more walkers in certain months. It's challenging trying to figure it out.

Mr. Pitts stated that some golfers will play 18 holes and walk 9. George Bennett is one. A lot of early morning birds like to walk because it's nice and cool and nice and quiet. On the back nine, they're in a hurry so they'll rent a cart and off they go. A lot of your motorized carts are all bundled together. I don't think it says 9 hole or 18 holes together on the carts.

Member Fogg you may want to check your numbers, there must be a mistake in there. He doesn't think...

Chairperson Gurzi said the regular passes, if you look at the difference between the two months, it's that much more than there is over there. There's over \$6,000 in regular passes more than the month before.

Mr. Pitts stated that when we started the new POS System, the girls in finance go thru line item by line item, to ensure they set up everything properly. It's always worked out within pennies.

Member Fogg thought the annual passes might be the answer.

Chairperson Gurzi agreed with over \$6,000 in annual passes.

Member Fogg agreed.

Director Meersman said it's very challenging looking at the numbers. They have been up substantially than the year before. A large part is several members and new season pass holders. That number was substantially higher. There's no easy way to figure it out.

Vice Chairperson Dale recalled discussing that about a year ago with all the variables and you could CSI it and go and determine when the annual cart revenues. It took a lot of work.

Director Meersman said that with all the different rates that we have, it's challenging to figure it all out and even our finance department studies it and looks at it every day when Levi turns it into them.

Vice Chairperson Dale spoke that there was a while where annual cart fee passes were just about all in May. You would have a big spike in cart rentals where you could no way justify the amount of rounds you had and that was due to the fact that just about everybody's fees were coming due at the same time.

6. ANNUAL CONTRACT RENEWAL

Mr. Pitts attached in the packet a letter regarding his annual contract renewal and asking for your support to have a continuation of his contract agreement between his company, Cerbat LLC and City of Kingman. He gave a brief overview of what's been accomplished, what's going on, what you might have questions on. Levi hoped the members took the time to overview that. If you haven't gone in and seen the changes now from where it was when he took over in 2012. At this time Mr. Pitts is asking for the Golf Advisor Commissions backing on his annual contract with the City of Kingman.

Vice Chairperson Dale stated that he has a few issues and would let Mr. Pitts know up front and to his face that he would not support in any stretch you getting another contract with Cerbat. Mr. Dale went through the contract and there were certain stipulations put in there, starting with Janet Watson adding the January 1st, 2015 date for you to receive your PGA card that has not happened. Vice Chairperson Dale's issue with the contract at the point where the contract got voided, why are we still in this contract? It is a terminal contract on both parties. Time frames of notification have come and lapsed. The maximum time frame needed to be given would have been 180 days. At the point when January 1st, 2015 came and went the contract could have been terminated within thirty days for you not living up to that portion of your contract.

Other issues Vice Chairperson Dale had, things that he has witnessed, being honest with you going forward individually not as a commission member, to the City Counsel and ask that they look into this as well. Violation of 6.4 of the contract, he has seen people come into the Club House, friends of yours, grab a key, not paying anyone at the counter, not telling anyone at the counter. Being confronted by one of your employees at the cart, at the point they took the cart, hollers back they will pay later and took off.

Vice Chairperson Dale has an issue with you paying employees entry fees into a tournament turning around and then buying their team in Calcutta, the Calcutta is a different story, you are then in charge of tallying the score, your taking half of their winnings. Countless complaints about one of your employees and that employee was not terminated until a letter was sent by the City.

You were inebriated at the Jr. Golf Ceremony.

Chairperson Gurzi spoke to David that he was out of line. We're talking about the contract, we're not talking about the individual. We're talking about the individual person and what he has done, his performance, as far as what his job is supposed to be doing. You are picking things out of his life, of what he's done, that you say is wrong.

Vice Chairperson Dale stated that they are in the contract.

Director Meersman you don't have evidence of that David and he would appreciate not even going anywhere with that.

Member Julie Moon stated that this is not the proper venue for this. We are an advisory commission.

Chairperson Gurzi that you are out of order David.

Member Moon stated David, you can give opinion and I respect that. I sure you have some valid things you would like to go over but I think that would be left at a council meeting where he is under the gun. We are not his boss and she feels this is a very improper venue to air all of this. We could all talk about the issues we have with Levi or with Mike and it's just not the right venue.

Vice Chairperson Dale stated its issues with the contracts as well as it being implemented.

Member Moon said issues that we can't change.

Chairperson Gurzi spoke that we have no ruling over the contract what so ever, we don't have the power. If you have a problem with that, Like Julie says, take it to the Council who does take care of that. That's their job not our job. We're just here to advise and that's all we can do. We have no power.

Vice Chairperson Dale asked so we can't point out any inconsistencies.

Chairperson Gurzi stated, no we can't, that's out of order. We're not allowed to do that, we are advisory committee, that's all we are. Whatever he did, you take it to the City Council who takes it under advisement and they make the ruling on it. We don't have that....

Vice Chairperson Dale stated that he doesn't want this committee making a recommendation to the Council not knowing the facts.

Chairperson Gurzi stated that the committee has their own individual preference. You have your own preference and so does everybody sitting here. All he's asking for, will they recommend and it would be an up and down vote, that's all it would be. What your position is as far as the contract is, that's up to the City Council not us.

Director Meersman stated that if you have factual information, that's worth sharing.

Vice Chairperson Dale asked if he could continue. As for the....

Chairperson Gurzi said no, no, you are out of order.

Vice Chairperson Dale said oh I can't...

Chairperson Gurzi said no, you cannot continue with that.

Vice Chairperson Dale asked with factual information.

Chairperson Gurzi stated no you are out of order, you can't continue with that. You're going over the contract and we don't have anything to do with the contract.

Vice Chairperson Dale said he was now going over Levi's letter.

Member Moon stated that if it pertains to his letter and you have questions or something to address with it...

Chairperson Gurzi said if you're not going to come up with facts about what happened and you have questions about his letter, you have the right to do that.

Vice Chairperson Dale said he could put it in question form.

Member Bill Fogg spoke to a point of order Frank, he wanted to bring up something before David or anyone started, I am not comfortable because he feels this is a form of recommendation would be a personnel decision. A personnel decision I don't think that we are qualified to be giving formal recommendations do this. If we are wanted to do stipulations that we're comfortable with the direction the golf course is going, something like that, that's fine but we were not there during the selection, the contract when it was agreed upon. We do not sit in on yearly evaluations. He assumes Mike is the person he reports to as far as evaluations. We have no idea what sort of goals and parameters he has set up. I really don't think it's our, if the City Council wants us to make a recommendation, we would go ahead. I really don't think that's our position to do that.

Director Meersman said the Council will be meeting, discussing and voting on this at the June 16th meeting.

Member Gurzi inquired if the Council asked for a recommendation on this.

Director Meersman stated the Council didn't ask for a recommendation but they appreciate you input. I'll be writing up a letter and the commission vote whatever the vote is to have the Council renegotiation with Levi, that's all it would be.

Member Kelly Pickering agreed with Commissioner Fogg that we are kind of caught in the middle between are we able to give recommendation and if so, should be have discussion versus do you want our recommendation and want our discussion. If it's just a flat go right down the aisle and vote.

Member Fogg stated that we don't have enough information where we can be making a vote on something like that, he didn't think.

Director Meersman said you could make that motion and vote that.

Member Jim Powell spoke now that the waters are muddied; he thinks each and every one of us should take into consideration where Levi was when he started. What a phenomenal job of improving the Club House, improving the staff, improving the quality of the golf experience. I am a walking talking Chamber of Commerce for the golf course here in Kingman. Levi could tell you that and I am responsible for bringing at least thirty rounds of golf to the course every week of the year on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In doing that, I have had people from fifteen different states come in, they were guests of mine and enjoy the Kingman golf course. The comments I get, I spend six months on the course here in Kingman and six months on a course in Texas. I go back to Texas and these people said you cannot believe the city course and the quality of what the experience is. I hold Levi responsible for that and I hold Mike responsible for that. They have done a phenomenal job from times gone past. Yes, there's always room for improvements and criticism. You have to take the passion, the love and yes he hasn't gotten his card. He spent the first year putting out fires. The second year making improvements, this year his father passed away and his health has gone to hell in a hand basket. I think as a fifty year resident of the City of Kingman and knowing the golf course when we use to drive jeeps out there for golf carts and knowing what it is today I think we should commend Levi for the improvements he has made, for the investment that he has made, not only for his blood sweat and tears but out of his back pocket. He has stepped to the plate, we are absolutely gifted to have a fellow like Levi at it. We have traveled from the North Pole, Alaska to Key West, Florida and from Bangor, Maine to San Diego and we go from golf course to golf course. When you look at city courses, we stand in a class of very few. Thank you.

Council Member Larry Carver would love to hear from the advisory commission on who they think should have it or should we proceed on it. The one thing he gives caution to is if you are going to evaluate the contract, that's something that should be brought up at a time if you feel something is not there and that should be done at a Council Meeting or discussed with City Attorney because not only is it Mr. Pitts, that as you say, is not fulfilled his document. We, as the Council of the City, are not invoking that clause to cancel that contract. When you start talking about personal issues in the open meeting, especially this type of meeting, I just need to caution that you really need to make sure you have some sort of documentation. If you don't, again that's a situation that Mr. Pitts reports to Mr. Meersman and you should be going directly towards them to where it can be answered immediately at that time. If you are pointing out factual things in the contract, it probably needs to be taken through Mr. Meersman, he can go to Mr. Dougherty, who in turn, will talk to Carl Cooper. Right now we are getting support or nonsupport into which direction you want to go with this.

Member Fogg stated that over six or seven meetings this is the first time we have actually seen a contract. As far as knowing exactly what was in there, I just don't feel this whole issue is in our per vial. I am comfortable going on record saying that he loves the

direction the course is going. He feels Levi has done a good job getting the staff motivated and keeping the golf course going in the right direction. But he has no idea on the other parts of the contract which are probably a little more pertinent with the City and the Council and honestly feels it's the Council and Mikes decision to be making on something like that.

Director Meersman stated that the Council to hear from the commission, do you support them negotiating with Levi or would you rather see them do an RFP where we get proposals.

Vice Chairperson Dale asked why not do both?

Director Meersman said we could do both. Levi would put in as well. Levi's been here for three years and he would like to seek your support for him to renegotiate with the Council.

Chairperson Gurzi said so all we can technically do now is voice our own opinion on an individual basis.

Member Moon asked if we really wanted to do that. If freedom of speech is in play, we could all sit around and fluff Levi and tell him all the wonderful things she likes and Dave has just as much right to sit to tell him all the things he can't stand about him. Is that what we're going to do because I don't want to sit through that? I don't think, like commissioner Fogg said, if you have a question Dave....

Vice Chairperson Dale mine is all tie able right back to.....

Member Moon to Vice Chairperson Dale, ask a question if you think there is something to be asked of Levi. Otherwise we will all spend hours talking about our personal opinions of Levi.

Vice Chairperson Dale said he would love to continue on then. Is it true or not true Levi that you started the process

Chairperson Gurzi said wait a minute to Vice Chairperson Dale....

Member Moon stated this isn't court.

Chairperson Gurzi said you are out of order to Vice Chairperson Dale.

Member Moon to Chairperson Gurzi that you don't even know the question. He has the right to ask the question.

Vice Chairperson Dale asked Levi is it true or not true you started to get your card in March of '05.

Director Meersman interjected that Levi has kept the City abreast of everywhere he is at with his PGA card. The city manager knows that, I know that. He's kept us abreast of that.

Vice Chairperson Dale wanted to say, he's seeing inconsistencies between his letter asking for our support and the reality of where he's at with his card.

Director Meersman stated isn't not because like he said Levi has kept the City abreast as where he is with his card and your right if the City thought he wasn't doing a good enough job in our minds we could have said, we're going to terminate the contract and start over. We chose not to do that because at the time we felt that he was doing a good enough job.

Vice Chairperson Dale just wanted to make sure the contract is as good as the paper it's written on.

Chairperson Gurzi said then you could go to the City Council.

Director Meersman also added you could talk to the City Attorney about it because that's who writes the contracts, the City Manager, himself and City Attorney.

Chairperson Gurzi personally thought the annual contract renewal should not have been put in here in the first place. He wanted it known that he made an effort to try and take it out, because I knew this was going to happen.

Vice Chairperson Dale started to interject...

Chairperson Gurzi said he was talking. This is not our position to negotiate a contract.

Member Moon agreed.

Chairperson Gurzi stated that if someone wants to write a letter to City Council, a recommendation off this board to the City Council; let them do it.

Vice Chairperson Dale made a motion that we do nothing with this.

Member Moon stated that's not the only thing in the packet, on the agenda.

Chairperson Gurzi clarified, on this item, just #6.

Council Member Carver said there are a lot of commissions that are asked to make recommendations. TDC just made a recommendation to Council to do away with TDC. It's just a recommendation, it says David's opinion, do we wish to proceed forward with the existing golf course manager or do you wish to proceed forward for the City going out for an RFP. Whether it's 5-2 6-1, our suggestion is to go out for an RFP. Us or the Council could come back and say, nope, we're going to give it back to Levi.

Member Moon asked Councilman Carver how do you respond to those cases you've been familiar with if we are to all give our vote, which should not be right here. Do we email that to someone?

Council Member Carver stated that no, it should be done here, you have an agenda item that takes an action.

Member Moon stated but not to go over the whole list of why we voted one way or the other.

Councilman Carver stated that you, as each commissioner, could state that you felt that Mr. Pitts has not fulfilled the contract as I have read it Then members could go around and say your voice off the question, that's where it would end and it would go through Mr. Meersman then to the Council when it comes around to negotiating.

Vice Chairperson Dale made a Motion on item #6 that we make an up or down recommendation for a request for proposal for a new golf contract or to support the current contract with Levi Pitts for negotiation.

Member Pickering seconded the motion. All favored by 6-0 vote.

Member Moon based on the information that I know today my recommendation would be yes I would like to see his contract renewed. Are there things that might be looked at in the contract, changed or renegotiated I would say yes. Nor do I feel the need to get into all of those, so if I had to give a simple answer today, I would say yes and that's not to say the contract as it sits is perfect, but I think he's done a great job.

Member Fogg thinks Levi's done an excellent job and likes the direction the golf course is going. I prefer to abstain because he doesn't feel this is their position to make the determination on that contract. Member Fogg is for Levi.

Member Powell said yes and has already stated my opinion.

Member Pickering said yes and goes along with Julie in that there are a lot of positives going on at the golf course that we've seen. Is there some contract issues that need to be discussed, absolutely, but that could be at any position that any of us hold in any of our jobs all the way across. In terms of opening up to other offers for people to come in with a bid for the golf course, is that a bad thing, I don't think it's a bad thing but as far as Levi having an opportunity to be looked at, I would vote yes.

Vice Chairperson Dale said it's a win, win, win opportunity that we're facing right now and he thinks a request for proposal for contracts is the way to go. Because of things Mike stated in the letter of where the golf industry right now, the amount of pro's that have been laid off, I believe Kingman deserves a PGA Pro on staff, there currently are none. I cannot support renegotiation and Mr. Pitt's contract and he has other issues he should be dealing with than this. NO

Chairperson Gurzi wanted to say there are issues with the contract that are out there but they need to be address but that's not for us to say. I've been here a little over twelve years now. When I first walked into the golf shop, it looked like Grannies Attic in there. What has transpired between Mike and Levi over at the golf course, he thinks they have done a phenomenal job for what they had to work with. The golf course lost \$340,000 budget and they are still improving it, which is absolutely amazing and Levi has been a part of that. So I say yes.

Director Meersman wanted to explain that the contract will be redone totally even if they do decide to go with Levi and there would be a bunch of percentages redone. This is the first time they had done a contract this way and it worked out quite well. The City has learned a lot more about the operation of the golf course under this contract. As bad as some people might think it is, it's been very good and very helpful for us to get a lot of good information.

Council Member Carver let the commission members know that if there are things in the contract bold it and send to Mike so we can get it to city attorney.

The polling of the Commission Members on the request for proposal for a new golf contract of to support the current contract with Levi Pitts for negotiation resulted in a vote of 5-1. Vice Chairperson Dale was the Nay Vote.

7. GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT
Report Attached

GREENS: Routine growth applications were applied to keep the greens smoother. Aerification, overseeding, and top dressing were done and has filled in nicely.

TEES:

Tees look good. Staff and inmate crew have been filling in divots. It would be nice to get golfers to do that on their own.

#10 forward tee has filled in nicely and is a nice feather to have.

#12 new approach where the hump was lowered has filled in nicely but still a little uneven in spots.

IRRIGATION:

That's an ongoing challenge. The crew is fine tuning it constantly to try and reduce water consumption, improve turf quality and minimize wet spots. It's challenging in the desert with cool season grasses.

STORM WATER RETENTION:

The area between #5- & #12 green we more than tripled the space there. It will be very beneficial during monsoon rains. After the big rain in March, there was no clean up after the rain when usually there was four days of cleanup.

Improvements have also been beneficial to the neighborhood down stream of course.

COMPOSTING:

Composting went much better than the year before. We reduced the amount of compost this year. Also the compost put down was aged much longer.

The compost last year was new, moister, and had a much less pleasing aroma.

By applying the compost the fairways have never looked so good.

He would like to budget for a new larger spreader to get the whole job done in two days instead of two weeks because how we top dress it on there.

#18 WIDENING:

Along #18 had been open for about a month. We pushed to get that done because the property line on the golf course is right along the cart path. The property owners could tell us to get off if they wanted. It was seeded January 23rd and is in good condition now. The composting helped that along.

FAIRWAY AERIFICATION:

The aerifier broke down with four left and the crew had to walk. We used the greens aerifier and you get the holes much closer together but we were able to get them finished.

TREES:

An inventory was done on all the trees on the golf course. We have 367 hardwood trees and 208 pines. Last year we planted 40 more. We have taken some down in places, others were planted in the wrong place where the tree roots encroach onto the greens. He likes to plant trees for safety like around #10 green. Hopefully those will eventually keep golfers from trying to drive the ball over #10 approach when playing #15.

GREENHOUSE:

The staff built a small greenhouse we can grow our own pine trees. We want to get the pinecone seeds from the healthy trees on the golf course. That way we know those trees are good and are hybrid to this area. We're planting a tree nursery and already have the irrigation in be put by the Elks Lodge next to our new putting green. All that area would be a tree nursery. In the future it would make it better for the condos down there. We would pluck the trees out of there as they are getting bigger and then leaving a clump of trees all down through there which would be beautiful for #1 and from the Elks Lodge.

MISCELLANEOUS:

There has been a lot of positive said from out of town people. A group from Canada come down and say, this is the only course they play. We had a group from Las Vegas that said our greens are as good as any of the private clubs in Las Vegas. It's nice to hear and his crew likes hearing things like that.

The crew was busy in the spring keeping up with the cultural practices as well as keeping the rough cut. It's thick right now and we have to keep it healthy because later in the year when the temperatures reach 100 degrees for extended periods of time the turf will make it through those time periods.

We did a drainage project around putting green by the Pro Shop. It was done because when it rained it would flood and get around the stucco of the pillars of the new shade structure and didn't want to ruin that. People won't be sitting by a mud hole when it's raining.

INMATES:

Since the last meeting we've had 1245 inmate hours at the golf course. There are some challenges with the program, it creates a little more work and our staff would not get as much done without them there. There's a lot of paperwork that has to be done but the program is very worthwhile. Hose reeling of greens level fairways huge help with.

Member Pickering with all the improvements out there, a lot of good stuff going on that you're referencing. He loves some of the changes especially #18, it really opens up that hole and makes it more playable. With the scorecard and what we're provided with in the Pro Shop, or the old one with the picture, with all of the changes, has someone come out to re-evaluate the course, re-rate the course with all the changes, the new tee boxes, lengthening out the back tees. For handicapping purposes, who does this? Who makes the decision of what holes or what handicap, there's a lot of games that go on out there. We have such an inaccurate scorecard, he's just wondering where we are with all that.

Mr. Pitts said for the scorecard, the Arizona Golf Association is the one that does the evaluation of the course and yes it has been done since the last scorecards came out. As far as the handicap of the holes, it is dearly and wholly responsible to the Men's Club Association. If you have any discussion about that when we come around for the next scorecard that would be something that you don't have to take to anybody other than Mike and myself.

Member Pickering said that was something we did. We sat down we went through the whole scorecard, we rated it. We gave it off to other members of the Men's Club we got that rated We came up with a summary of where we were and he doesn't know protocol of where that needs to be to make sure with the next series of cards we have something more complete.

Mr. Pitts said it would come to him and he would forward that on to Mike. We aren't here to what handicap each hole it. We just want to make sure the scorecard is realistic to what you want because you play every day.

Member Pickering had a question pertaining to the fairways, the composting and getting the rooting and the base layer of material underneath that more healthy. Where are we on length of the fairways. Is there a time of year we can start lengthening down a little bit or are we at too much risk with the wind and the watering system issues.

Director Meersman said that with the cut on fairways in the off season but then you're not getting the roots to do down. The root grows proportionate to the length of the top growth. If you want to have good healthy turf then you've got to have enough top grown to sustain the root growth. It's challenging when you're growing cool season grasses when we get those stretches of 100 degrees and we see big problem areas. If we had a totally perfect irrigation system and a lot of top soil brought in. A lot of the problems in the fairways is that there's hardly any top soil. We have days where we dig down and you would be hitting solid rock. We could go down closer it's our feeling that there's not that many lower handicap golfers. Lower handicapped golfers want it lower so they can hit it

and spin the ball but there's not that many caliber of golfer to benefit from that. Some higher handicap would like it to be a fluffed off the fluff to hit it off of. So there's a fine line for the caliber of play we have and the majority of players and try to keep turf off it in the summer. It's better off staying where it's at.

Member Pickering said the shorter the grass the better the ball strike. We get some lies in the fairway, we play the ball down and sometimes you have pretty unfortunate lies a couple of times around the fairway just because the grass. It's lumpy in areas.

Director Meersman said they are cutting fairways three times a weeks, so you shouldn't have those as frequently. Use to happen more. A lot better than they were cross cut them. They could be shorter at my kids are, bent grass fairways. That use to happen more. This is the first year we've been cutting them three times a week. They are a lot better and on Wednesday we cross cut them. There are better, not that they couldn't be shorter like with private clubs. There are budget challenges that keep up from going much lower than we are.

Member Pickering regarding pin placements our greens are fabulous and some of the best in the state and I've played literally all over the world, so I get the privilege of that. On the front middle back, where we alternate them out there's times of the year where the greens get quick and there are greens that can't hold those pin placements in certain areas and it is kind of a continuous problem in some places where those pin placements are because it's going to slow down play. There are areas where if you can't hit the ball on 10% of the green, the pin placement is taking 90% of the green out of play for a realistic two putt for even a low handicap person. The question would be, where are we on educating the people that set the pins and when do you go out and double check those. What kind of oversight are we going to see and can we get that somewhat improved in the future?

Director Meersman said it is challenging and we're not the only place that has this problem. His son charted green speeds today compared to when greens were built. The contours of greens weren't made for the lower heights of cuts today. Back in the day, they weren't all about how fast can they be. That's what we've gotten to be now. The biggest part is during the winter when they can get really fast when they're not growing at all and any little bit of slope and they're a challenge. We use oversight and we do train them. They know in front of #1 they know that if that pin is called to be front right and they're fast, to move it back a little farther to the second section back. There are certain sections of our greens like in front of #8 in winter you can't use the whole front so we put them back to the middle. We aren't fortunate enough to have a whole of talented golfers on our maintenance crew so it's up to their discretion by taking the chart we have and figure out and interpret where it's supposed to be. We do have problems with that and you've told me before about certain pin placements and he's gotten calls from guys about pin placements. We go look at them, evaluate them, and change them if need be. Unless you want the greens to be a lot slower all the time, let him know, he doesn't think you

want that, if you do we could slow them down and that pin placement would be good forever. There are challenges and any club will have that. We're not fortunate like Augusta National where they set tees where every pin was for the last six years. They'll have three greens guys and four Superintendents looking at it to decide where to put the cup.

Member Pickering said he enjoys the front middle back and the rotations.

Director Meersman said that's done to spread the wear around the green. If we kept pin placements in the perfectly flat places, those portions would be worn down to dirt.

Vice Chairperson Dale asked if the card will reflect the latest ratings and rankings? Is this the new card we're going with?

Director Meersman said the yardages are but the new cards are on order.

Vice Chairperson Dale asked when the rating and ranking done.

Director Meersman said that was done last year and we had a group of ladies out measuring the course a month ago.

Vice Chairperson Dale agrees with what was done with the water retention and other areas of the course much easier cleanup but is concerned on a couple of photos. On #18 cart path, we've had a lot of discussion on the property ownership there if we do any improvements over there, are we not improving someone else's property? Behind #1 green and left of #2 fairway, does the golf course or the City own that property?

Director Meersman stated yes if you see stakes the Engineering Department surveyed it.

Vice Chairperson Dale asked that everything you are looking at doing is staying inside of the City property line. On #18, that works already been done.

Director Meersman stated that the portion where we put the wall in, we didn't do any work over there we just put a little wall on our property. That's where the culvert goes over in front of #18 green.

Vice Chairperson Dale wasn't talking about the actual fairway but on the fairway where all that was cleaned. Will that now be water retention?

Director Meersman said we were just holding the water back there. The people that owned that property could come and fill it in, they can do whatever they want to do. They could put a fence all down that property, fill it and that's why we widened #18 fairway.

Vice Chairperson Dale so that's more of a catch basin for water, it's not something your going to try and reuse.

Director Meersman no it's just there to hold the water back and to keep it off the golf course.

Vice Chairperson Dale said it that was just a misunderstanding he had looking at that, it's nothing we're going to do in new construction.

Member Pickering said he loves desert grasses. There's a ton of grass out there that we could just let and doesn't need to be as plush and nice as it is just for maintenance and water use. The schedule for the yellow areas on the golf course, is there a time frame, is there an irrigation change?

Director Meersman there isn't a time change and there's no plan of doing it. We've looked at it and it would be very costly to look like desert. All irrigation would have to be rerouted, you would have to dig and take out all the soil, bring in desert materials, desert plants. There's a lot more maintenance to it. There's maintenance to desert too. You have to keep the weeds out so people can find their ball, it's not totally maintenance free. As water gets to be more of a commodity we're looking at areas to cut back. We've already begun this process if you've looked at what we've done. Maybe it doesn't look as good as the yellow spot but there are pretty substantial spots where we've done that already. We did more areas this spring in front of #8 tee. We turned sprinklers off there and will dig some of that out and try to get it back to desert. With the limited budget we have it's little steps right now. If we had a lot of money we could attack this it would take a substantial amount of budget.

Member Pickering just didn't know if this was a long term plan.

Director Meersman we just want to show council that we've done a lot of things and it's ongoing. There is a lot of people we're working with, you may like it, there are a lot that don't like the par 3's be desert and areas around the tees not having grass. These are home owners whose property is around the course. It will take more of a commitment from more than just him, but from this commission and the Council to be able to say, let's do it because it will be a substantial increase to the budget.

Vice Chairperson Dale stated that we need to be proactive on anything dealing with water. With you including that in our packet this time, with us meeting quarterly, a lot of times what we're getting from you is an autopsy instead of a plan going forward, it's very good to see as these changes are being made where your minds at, where we're headed, why we're headed there. It's a lot better being involved in the process than the forensics afterward. He appreciates that.

8. DISCUSSION ON PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

Member Fogg brought it up in the interest of speeding things up post pone until the next mtg. what some of the other courses are doing.

Director Meersman our budget has zero dollars for advertisement. We had it years ago. We could look at putting it back in. This may free up for more advertising. He would like to see us take the billboard at the golf course and do an RFP for digitized advertisement we could get income for it. Right we don't have money. It would take Council approval, it could be win-win

Vice Chairperson Dale asked if weren't not supporting golf now? We're on the Golf Now website and when you go to book it, it's coming back saying not available. So we're not on Golf Now?

Chairperson Gurzi said we changed it.

Mr. Pitts stated that to answer David's question through the years it started out as a great promotional idea for the City of Kingman. Trade times, we had the POS System and after evaluating what the POS System actually cost to what we were given them it was astronomical they were getting upwards of, the last count was upwards of six hundred plus rounds in trade times. At \$50 that's what we were giving away a year just to be on that web page. So we purchased our own page cityofkingnam.gov you can go on the golf course and book your tee time right there. We own it, there are discounts available. We can change anything we want to on it, we don't have to ask for permission to do any of those other things. I bought half the software and the City bought the other half. That alone saves us a ton of money. The advertising alone was for the fact that people got on Golf Now was for cheap golf.

Vice Chairperson Dale asked if POS and Active Golf are now the same, still owned by Active Golf. You're on Active Golf Now or POS?

Mr. Pitts stated we own our own POS System, we are now Fore Link and all the software and site itself we own, the City of Kingman owns.

Vice Chairperson Dale so it's not an outside external link?

Mr. Pitts said that was correct, we do all our own internal stuff.

Director Meersman stated that our finance department also has access on there too so they can go on there and look at all the information that his people are putting in daily, they can get on anytime they want to also. This was run by council and they approved it too. Levi recommended it because he felt the trade times were supposed to be at noon which originally did this, trade times at noon, not that many people played at that time and we thought that would be good. That's why it was done that way and this was done before me, that's how it got to that. It got to where they were discounting those trade times cheaper than our customers could get them for.

9. **COMMISSION PURPOSE / RESPONSIBILITIES**

Councilman Larry Carver, City of Kingman liaison, plays golf and drinks beer. Going over there he hears from a lot of people and was kind of getting the impression from the golfers that they really didn't have an input into the golf course. Mike and his crew was chartered with that responsibility.

Member Moon wanted it noted that not one person is attending this meeting.

Councilman Carver thought, what should the commission be doing? In coming here tonight and listening to the start of the conversation, I think it shows where the problem exists. Originally and historically from what he was told when we had a loan on the golf course you were really here to kind of help take care of that loan and pay it off. The golf course is becoming self-sustaining so I talked with Mike about it and brought it up in the Council Meeting to be put on the agenda. What would this commission like to see its responsibilities be? I envision it would be and maybe there would be some people here that would have some problem with the golf course and they would voice their opinion to you and then you as a commission could get with Mike or if Mike is recommending the changes, which obviously he keeps you posted on it. You could talk to golfers and decide if this one will fly or you make a recommendation that he thinks, this should be the direction to go. Ultimately, the Council will listen to Mike because that's what he's charged with doing. He brought it up to try and get the idea as commissioners on what you would like to see your job is.

Member Pickering said he thought there was a fine line between us, being in a strange position where we might feel like we are trying to tell you guys how to do your job. Absolutely that's not my position or anyone else's up here I've talked to.

Councilman Carver doesn't want the commissioners to get into that situation where that's what you would be doing. But he got the impression and felt like the golfers had no place to go to voice their opinion. If something was done at the golf course and they're going, when did this come about, something to that effect.

Member Pickering stated that he's down there as much as anybody and think it's a really good way for us to be able to hear, ask these questions, get educated from the people in charge and give us an educated comment back to the golfers. He goes to the course and gets bombarded for fifteen twenty and can't even get out on the course. His position or what he would like to see is an increase in meetings. I'm speaking for myself but sometimes I think there is too big of a gap with quarterly meetings. We are all busy and we all miss one and now we haven't been around for several months, its catch up time and weathers changed. My opinion would be to maybe meet every other month for a while, maybe meet six times a year, be able to listen and more ask more questions, be able to educate ourselves and be liaisons that would go back to the community or back to the golf course with information and just have that freedom of communication and that's how I view this commission and that's why I ask these questions. It's not just for me it's

so I can get answers to take back on the playability of the golf course to the people that ask me questions.

Council Member Carver said thought Member Pickering was correct and that the meeting times are too far apart. This is a great autopsy report. If you met maybe four times a year instead of six times a year, you may find that you need to meet twelve times a year, once a month, to keep everything in the fore front. Also from a stand point of trying to get golfers down here for the meeting so Mike can hear it.

Vice Chairperson Dale agreed completely with Kelly but doesn't think it's a big mystery what we're here for. I think we bring a mass amount of talent to this board. We've all negotiated contracts, we've all had employees, there's hundreds of year of experience up here and I think for the City, shame on the City if they don't tax that. He's here as a volunteer and you don't ask for his help and he's offering to volunteer to give that to you, shame on the City for that and he thinks its shall advise or recommend to Council policy with respect to the current use and needs of the golf course. That's a pretty good summation.

Member Moon stated she liked the way Member Pickering put this. Mr. Carver, when you have community members come up and ask you questions, do you bring it up at a Council Meeting, no, right.

Councilman Carver said no, that a lot of times he does.

Member Moon asked even when the people aren't there? Her point is in order for us to do a better job, I am a golfer but I don't play near as much but I am getting out more. I have gotten asked questions because they have heard that she is on the commission about x-y-z which she is not going to bring up but she tells them it's an Open Meeting. So instead of listening to Kelly say ten guys asked him about this or Dave saying four people asked him about that. I would say we have to find a way to reach out to the community and invite them to come. Otherwise I don't feel comfortable asking the questions that other people like and really don't care enough to come to the meeting. Then we can really learn what the community thinks of hole #10 or of the composting or of how we are going to change things. There might not be a real point to this other than we have to get the community to come otherwise we could all meet once a month we could meet once every six months but it's all hearsay on what we've heard at the golf course if we don't really know what the community has to say. She has always said if you have a voice come use it don't hide behind someone else to ask the question for you. We're here for a purpose but we're not here to speak for the thousands of people that live in Kingman and play on this golf course. They need to come.

Councilman Carver echoed that, they need to come.

Member Pickering said we've hired professional we're not here to critique our professionally hired. We're here to ask questions and be more of a communicator back

and forth when there are changes at the golf course made and there are little things made and there's little things that might be overseen like inaccurate scorecards or little details it gives us an opportunity to be a voice and bring things back. I'm sure Mike appreciates everything we have to say and helps him do his job in a better manner. I just think we need to meet more often and I'm sure you can see the uncomfortableness there was up on the panel. When we're asked to give a recommendation on Levi's position, I don't think that most of us were very comfortable with making a recommendation that had to do with employment or contracts.

Member Moon stated with what little we know.

Council Member Carver asked does this commission wish to do. As Commissioner Dale pointed out shall advise and recommend to Council policy with respect to current use and future needs of the golf course. The Golf Course Manager is one of those needs.

Vice Chairperson Dale stated that we should feel comfortable doing these topics because we've done our homework. If there's questions about somebody having a PGA Card call the PGA or there's a question about this or are Calcutta's legal, call the Department of Tax. We need to do homework. That's part of being on this commission.

Member Moon said we don't really know what the commission is the better question is what does the City and Council expect of this commission to do?

Council Member Carver has been to meetings and has wanted to voice his opinion, that's why he wanted to come to this commission to say, should there be something else. Do you feel there should be doing something else? If not, then he was wrong in bringing it up talking to Mike and about and he was sure it felt that way from talking to the people.

Chairperson Gurzi stated he's been on this commission over seven years. He got on the commission because he wanted to help the golf course because he felt this was what the commission was all about. Also, to make the golf course better and more feasible for everybody to play and enjoy it and because it's the backbone of the City and without it this City would be hurting big time and a lot of people don't realize that. We had meetings once a month and he understands Mike's situation with his staff and everything, having all these different commission and having meetings once a month but when we had the meetings once a month we got a lot more information from Mike and whoever the superintendent was at the time. We went out and talked with the people who asked questions and we had answers for them. This commissions a little bit different than the rest of them, we're at a place where there's an asset for the City to flourish with and make money off of and it's close to that now and we need to be more informed, not saying anything against Mike he's doing a great job, but we need to meet once a month like we use to.

Vice Chairperson Dale agreed that the information we're receiving, the questions we are receiving from the course was much more in real time.

Chairperson Gurzi said he would get the information because he talked with Mike all the time but we all can't do that. If we had a meeting once a month is what we should be heading toward. We can be informational people who can go out there and help the golf course when people have issues that we can answer for them.

Director Meersman said we use to meet every other month and this commission voted to go to quarterly. Part of the reason was, we can talk about this and maybe vote on it at the next meeting but it was due to budget cuts, it cost us money to have these meetings. Time to do minutes, as well as we were having trouble getting a quorum for the meetings. This commission voted on to change it. If we need to talk about it at the next meeting or have a special meeting we could do that.

Chairperson Gurzi stated that years back we didn't have a quorum. I've been here for a long time actually longer than I'm supposed to be there were no others who wanted to take the job or be here. Fortunately we have enough people now who are interested in it. If thought the every other month situation we had, when he first came here it was every month but then went every other month and it's just information and he thinks that's our job.

Director Meersman has always said you could stop him on the course and ask any question, the city pays for his cell phone and that is so any one can call him and ask him any question any time you want. If you ever have concerns, comments from people feel free to call.

10. DIRECTORS REPORT

Director Meersman stated the next meeting is August 19, 2015

Chairperson Gurzi will be out of town for the August meeting and wondered if it could be pushed back a week.

Member Pickering are we going to make decision at the next meeting as to the direction or will that be put on the agenda as an item to meeting more often.

Director Meersman said it will be on the agenda.

Director Meersman commented that he was told that half a year ago the Council was looking at redoing the whole commission book. The objective of this commission is not very clear and needs some rewriting as well. We'll get with the City Manager and City Attorney and get it ready for Council to look at.

Councilman Carver was making a statement to Mr. Meersman but unfortunately due to failure of speaking into the microphone, I was unable to dictate from the recording what he stated.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY COMMISSION MEMBERS

Limited to announcements, availability/attendance at conferences and seminars, requests for agenda items for future meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Commission Member Bill Fogg made a MOTION to ADJOURN. Commission Chairperson Frank Gurzi SECONDED the MOTION and was APPROVED by a vote of 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:02 p.m.

STATE OF ARIZONA)
COUNTY OF MOHAVE)ss:
CITY OF KINGMAN)

CERTIFICATE OF COMMISSION MINUTES

I, Karen Fogg, Parks & Recreation Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary of the City of Kingman, Arizona, hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Golf Course Advisory Commission of the City of Kingman held on May 20, 2015.

Dated this _____ day of August 20, 2015.

Karen Fogg, Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary