

**Sun Lakes Homeowners Association
Cottonwood, Palo Verde Golf Committee Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2017**

Members present: Rita Benfer, Kathy Skrei, Daniel Ellis, Ginger Mays, Tom Rainville, Nancy Hermanson, Bert Paul, and Jack Hill

Member absent: Cindy Bosch

Board Liaison present: Woody Neiman

Staff present: Desmond Dakin, Cottonwood Director of Golf and Bill Todd, Director of Maintenance

Staff absent: Mark Leibfried, Greg Tokash

Management absent: Steve Nolan

Visitors present: Joe Ficek and Bob Lange

Call to order and minutes: The meeting was called to order at 2:00 P.M. by Acting Chairman Daniel Ellis. The motion to approve minutes from the January 5, 2017 meeting was made by Jack Hill with a second by Tom Rainville. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Comments from visitors: Guest Bob Lange expressed concern that the large volume of guests interfered with his access to play. He cited cases of delays in tee times and members being shifted from Cottonwood to Palo Verde. The Committee discussed the matter at length and no changes to existing routines were suggested by either Members or Mr. Lange. Rationale for retaining the status quo included inability to change guest privileges mid-year for annual pass holders. Also the problem appears limited in impact due to the peak visitor times being confined to January-February, coupled with longer day light (and more tee times) after February. This analysis satisfied Mr. Lange.

Staff reports:

Bill Todd, Director of Golf Maintenance. Weather was cold, but courses remained playable. Leveling of tee boxes is slated to start in July, at a cost of \$25,000. Holes impacted are: PV; 3, 5, 6, 8, 16, 17; CW; 5, 7, 8. Surplus material at the driving range has been removed.

Desmond Dakin, Director of Golf at Cottonwood. Rules clinics for are being planned. Various tournaments and events are robust. The level of play and sales of memberships are strong. Daniel Ellis noted that there might be a shift of play from CW to PV based on an aging population wanting a shorter course. Details are in Attachments I and II.

Board Liaison Comments:

Woody Neiman reported that, on an ongoing basis, he will need to leave meetings at 3:00 P.M., in order to attend another committee meeting for which is also the board liaison.

Unfinished business:

Suggestion cards: Desmond Dakin reported that a comment card was received, but was not relevant since it related to swimming pool operations. Mr. Dakin reviewed an observation reported by

Cindy Bosch. She wrote a comment about cart safety by the tunnel. In response, Bill Todd reviewed efforts to mitigate risks: Arrows were added, arrows were repainted, signs are present, and a convex mirror is in place. He was unaware of additional mitigation activities that would add value.

Bill Todd presented an update on the idea of painting curbs by tee boxes and around greens. He recommends not doing so. I.e., the practice is unknown elsewhere and adds to costs of maintenance.

New business:

Two year plan. The Committee was polled and decided to drop its goal regarding customer surveys. Discussion reflected that customer feedback is sufficient already given the use of satisfaction cards and access to Committee meetings.

Comments from committee members:

Kathy Skrei. The PV parking lot spaces were restriped satisfactorily. She questioned the change of time for PV shotgun starts and will inquire with Greg Tokash, who was absent.

Rita Benfer asked about finding an alternative time for meetings. Members were polled as to their schedules, with the result being to continue with the status quo. Ms. Mays also asked about the possibility of installing benches on the courses, especially for walkers. Bill Todd will present possible costs and locations at the next meeting. However, discussion reflected skepticism for the idea based on cost (about \$20,000), higher costs to mow, fold-out seats on some pull carts, and possible concerns of homeowners.

Ginger Mays had no comments.

Nancy Hermanson. PV Couples' new board is now in place.

Tom Rainville. CW Men's election will be in March. They have 50 new members and recently held a welcoming social event for them. He reviewed their efforts to mitigate risks to the Men's Club.

Jack Hill. Mr. Hill likes the course conditions, but said that PV's sand is hard. Bill Todd will have traps raked as needed.

Bert Paul. Mr. Paul questioned the spot rate of \$70 per round, especially for guests, as being high. Discussion reflected that does not appear to be a widely perceived problem. Also, this is the peak time of year in the market, with rates being higher for this part of the season. No action was taken.

Adjournment and next meeting: Acting Chairman Daniel Ellis adjourned the meeting at 3:03 P.M. The next meeting will be on March 2, 2017 at 2:00 P.M. in the ceramics room.

Respectfully submitted by Daniel Ellis, Secretary

Attachments:

- I. Cottonwood Pro Shop Report
- II. Rounds Report