

The Holiday Open House attracted a normal level of attendance with 520 guests. The Links served as the pick-up site for the Glen Ellyn Rotary Club citrus sale for the third year. The circle drive works well for this event. For the first time, the event was promoted in the clubhouse and in the Village Links e-news.

Final figures show that 2011 was not a good year, but was a typical experience for a golf course. Rounds were down 3% on the 18-hole course and greens fees were also down 3%. Rounds were down 7% on the 9-hole course and greens fees down 6%. Overall, rounds were down 5% and greens fees down 4%. These figures contrast with rounds down 7.6% in the Chicago area and 3.5% nationally. The National Golf Foundation said that weather affected rounds, but the greater negative influence was the state of the economy. People are playing fewer rounds and spending less money. The National Golf Foundation figures include both public and private courses.

Manager Pekarek reported that 2012 will be the half-way mark in bond payments. The payments are \$340,000 per year, and currently have outstanding \$3,500,000 in principal and interest.

The Links finished 2011 with a gross profit of \$379,000, \$39,000 after debt service. This is despite the facts that in May 2011, revenues lagged \$246,000 behind 2010 numbers, and at the end of September, still behind 2010 by \$203,000. Finishing in the black was a significant accomplishment achieved by efforts to reduce expenses in all areas and work to recruit outings and foursome play. In particular, seasonal payroll was reduced by 9%. Manager Pekarek concluded that efforts will have to continue to squeeze expenses, yet not hurt revenue by spending less money.

Manager Pekarek concluded his report by noting that expenses are lower now than in 1999.

Chairman Girsch commented on the remarkable end-of-year results given the status in September. Manager Pekarek said that the staff understand what needs to be done, and have taken unusual steps to accomplish it.

Trustee Liaison Report

There was no Trustee report.

FACILITY MASTER PLAN STATUS REPORT

Manager Pekarek reported that the Village Board approved hiring architects, and engineers at its January meeting. Staff met with the architects and engineers on January 16 to get placed back on their respective schedules.

A rough schedule has been put together to complete the permitting process to allow construction to commence by October 1, 2012. If that date can be met, most of the interior construction disruption can be over by early Spring, 2013 and the outside can be finished by later Spring 2013. In order to meet this timetable, the special use permits reviews by the Architectural Review Board, Planning Commission and Village Board need to be complete and approved by June 11, 2012. Village staff will need to help by placing the project on meeting agendas during the usual 30-45 day staff review period or else the plans will not be before these Village groups until Summer. Major issues will be the building footprint vis a vis the flood plain and site layout. A variation must be obtained for the portion of the parking lot that will encroach into the flood plain. A wetlands determination cannot be completed until Spring. Plans will be submitted to the Village pending the wetlands determination to keep the schedule moving. Design of the interior does not need to be complete until June. In conclusion, design decisions need to be made between March 15 and June 15. Bidding will take place in August and September. It is not ideal to start exterior work in October and accomplish anything with portions that need to grow – putting greens and driving tees. The driving range extension will not take place until 2014. Storm water and flood plain permits will be focused on immediately to keep the process moving while design decisions are being made.

Manager Pekarek intends to release an update every one-to-two weeks to the Commission, Steering Committee and the Village Board. This is a very visible project, and Manager Pekarek expects more questions and comments than when the course itself was rebuilt.

The Commission discussed Manager Pekarek's presentation, beginning with the exterior style of the building. The current building was designed and built in 1968, with remodels taking place in 1977 and 1984. The architect has yet expressed no preference on exterior architectural style except that to assure that it will not be simply new on top of old.

Several challenges to the schedule were discussed: delays from a lengthened comment period; Village Commissions treat the Links like a private owner, not a Village entity; increased intensity of use. Manager Pekarek also expressed hope that his staff will be allowed to make the decisions on protecting trees instead of having every tree inventoried. Staff has a good track record of protecting trees as evidenced during the 2003 upgrades.

In response to questions, Manager Pekarek reviewed the bidding process and requirements of state and local laws. Capable contractors can be identified in a pre-qualifying process. Those pre-qualified contractors will then be invited to bid. Manager Pekarek and staff will be making recommendations of construction contractors directly to the Village Board. This Commission will not be making such a recommendation, but will be kept informed.

The Commission expects to review the National Golf Foundation report at its next meeting.

January 18, 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS:

There were no announcements or other business. The next meeting of the Recreation Commission will be on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 7:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Jourdan moved to adjourn the meeting. There were several seconds to the motion, and it was carried unanimously. The January 18, 2012 meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM.

Submitted by Karen Blake, Recording Secretary

Reviewed and Edited by Matt Pekarek, Recreation Director February 10, 2012

Approved by the Recreation Commission February 15, 2012