

- The men's association began their season with an event with approximately 20 golfers participating.
- Leagues have been contacted and are scheduled Monday-Thursday afternoons after 4:00 during the summer.
- Initial placement for the golf cart sign program is ready to take place. Ten courses have now signed on. Revenue will be approximately \$1,000 per month if signs are placed on 60 carts.
- Twenty-five new Yamaha golf carts were delivered on February 28.
- March has started off well with favorable weather.

Under new business is a proposal to use Ben Geren for an Instructional Flag Football League, Upward Flag Football. Staff recommended location is southeast of the go-cart facility. Coordination with OK Industries annual company picnic on September 29 will be necessary. Tom Minton suggested adding a culvert, hauling in dirt, and leveling the area. Mr. Wayne Hancock moved, Mr. Jerry Neel seconded, that the proposal be approved as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

The next item under new business is a request from Ben Geren Softball Association to replace score booths on fields #2 and #4 with new styles. Mr. Wayne Hancock moved, Mr. Bud Harper seconded, that the request be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mike Young, Golf Course Superintendent, was introduced to board members.

The next item under new business is a request for a special event fundraiser to benefit River Valley Animal Welfare Coalition. The event will be a Doggie Easter Egg Hunt and Costume Contest. The purpose is to raise money for low cost spay/neuter for families in the River Valley that could not otherwise afford these services. Mr. Jerry Neel moved, Mr. Wayne Hancock seconded, that the request be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

The last item on the agenda is park revenue reports which are included in the packet.

The next park board meeting will be held on Monday, April 9, 2007, at 12:00 noon. Mr. Wayne Hancock moved, Mr. Jerry Neel seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Vincent, Administrative Secretary

A group of golfers who play at Ben Geren attended the meeting to ask that annual fees not be raised for 2007. Judge Hudson responded that the board is exploring its options and is very sensitive to what we are doing. We do not want to do anything that will drive golfers away and hurt our revenues. We would like to have meetings with the golfers as we have in the past to share information and receive input. Annuals generate about 11% of the revenue and 31% of the play. A decision needs to be made soon.

Mr. Bob Robinson briefed the board on the upcoming mountain bike race scheduled for April 15, 2007, at Ben Geren. Mr. Vince Cucco from Fayetteville is putting on the race. All permits have been filed. Permission is requested to obtain entrance to the park at 4:00 a.m. and to bring in four portable toilets to be placed in the parking area at the BMX. This area will be used for registration, staging, and finish line. It is hoped that part of the softball parking lot can be used for unloading bikes. This will be coordinated with the softball activity schedule. Approximately 200 participants are anticipated. The race will begin around 9:00 a.m. and continue all day. The course is a 10-mile loop. In case of extreme wet conditions, they propose to use about 1/4 mile of the paved path. Lanes on that portion of the trail can be designated and marked for race participants and public to share. Damage to the trails has been caused by 4-wheeler riders. Mr. Robinson suggested blocking key entrance locations and adding signs with phone numbers encouraging the public to report any 4-wheeler activity to local authorities. Mr. Bud Harper moved, Mr. Wayne Hancock seconded, that the board go on record endorsing that Sebastian County policy prohibits the use of 4-wheelers on Ben Geren Park property. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brent Yocum briefed the board on Gator Golf 2007 plans and program. March 10-11 was the opening weekend for the season. The course will be closed on Mondays. Last year's revenue was not severely affected by the Monday closing. They have experienced some vandalism. The red trailer containing tools belonging to Brent was broken into about three weeks ago and the tools were taken. In a separate incident, two signs were taken from the course.

The next item on the agenda was briefing on Golf Course marketing activities by Mr. Steve Nicholls.

- The packet includes January and February marketing letters.
- Extra projects this winter by pro shop staff include a 24'x8' scoreboard located on the side of the cart maintenance building, six benches to put around the clubhouse, and bag stands for the driving range.
- New marketing ideas include sale of the Triple 5's card (over 12 have been sold) and a summons to play at Ben Geren to be placed on windshields of cars in the parking lot during outside events this summer.
- The ladies association began their season with a rules clinic conducted by Steve Nicholls. Approximately 40 ladies attended.

MINUTES
BEN GEREN PARK BOARD MEETING
March 12, 2007
12:00 Noon

The regular meeting of the Ben Geren Park Board was held at 12:00 Noon, March 12, 2007, at the Ben Geren Park Community Building, 7200 Zero, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Present were:

Mr. Eddy Beshears
Mr. Jerry Neel
Mr. Wayne Hancock
Mr. Bud Harper

Absent was:

Mr. Frank Glidewell

Others present were:

Hon. David Hudson, Sebastian County Judge
Mr. Tom Minton, Assistant County Administrator
Mrs. Sue Reed, Sebastian County Comptroller
Mr. Steve Nicholls, P.G.A. Golf Professional
Mr. Mike Young, Golf Course Superintendent
Mrs. Paula Vincent, Administrative Secretary
Mr. Brent Yocum, Gator Golf
Mr. Bob Robinson, Mountain Bike Trails
Mr. Todd Reichen, Mr. Gerald Morgan, Mr. Richard McMahan, Mr. Raymond Lea,
Mr. George Burlingston, Golfers
Ms. Mary Crider, Times Record

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon by Mr. Eddy Beshears, Chairman.

There being no corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 8, 2007, it was moved by Mr. Wayne Hancock and seconded by Mr. Bud Harper that they be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was the Monthly Financial Reports. A total of \$11,762.65 for the Golf Course and \$229.42 for the Front Side was transferred to County Treasurer for January 2007 compared to \$36,297.85 for the Golf Course and \$110 for the Front Side for January 2006. A total of \$19,762.14 for the Golf Course and \$140.00 for the Front Side was transferred to County Treasurer for February 2007 compared to \$26,563.81 for the Golf Course and \$110.00 for the Front Side for February 2006.

Total rounds are down 36.9% for the year, paid rounds are down 43.8% for the year, annual rounds are down 28.3% for the year, and golf cart rentals are down 48.8% for the year.

It was moved by Mr. Wayne Hancock and seconded by Mr. Jerry Neel that the revised December 2006, January 2007, and February 2007 financial reports be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.