

Friends of Duluth Public Golf
Minutes of the Organizational Meeting
September 24, 2018
Enger Park Golf Course Pavilion

1. The meeting was called to order by President Chris Stevens at 5:30 p.m.
Board Members present:

Chris Stevens (President)

Tim Lee (Vice President)

Trish Lilliberg (Executive Committee)

Dick Frank

Bob Pugliese

Dan Baumgartner

Board Members absent:

Paul Paczynski (Treasurer)

Sue Harney (Executive Committee)

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2. President Stevens sent in the Tourism Tax Application form requesting \$25,000 for marketing and purchase of youth golf equipment for the Youth Recreation Programs at Enger and Lester Golf Courses. The document will be posted on the FODPG website/Facebook.

3. The recent Task Force meeting included discussion of the survey results of the telephone survey conducted by Duke Skorich's company, Zenith Research. Results from 465 people were obtained after 43,000 contacts were attempted. The next step will be qualitative group contacts with non-golfers (2) and golfers (1). Results will be presented after completion of the entire process.

4. President Stevens received a suggestion from a member that the golf courses be managed by a Board, similar to the Duluth Zoo and Spirit Mountain. The concept was discussed along with funding of capital improvements and the need for a fact sheet showing golf course benefit to the community.

5. Further discussion addressed the fall presentation to the City Council. Five scenarios of action on the golf courses were introduced for DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY and members were encouraged to contact President Stevens with their suggestions and additional scenarios. We will be developing our presentation in the weeks ahead and all suggestions are appreciated. The City Council will be approving the City's 2019 budget on December 17th. The scenarios will be sent via a web blast to members in the next few days for feedback to President Stevens (cstevens@d.umn.edu) no later than Wednesday, October 3.

6. The Finance Committee received the July figures and are currently awaiting August figures. President Stevens will continue to request the figures. July figures indicated that revenue is either right on projections or above. August figures are expected to be good. The Finance Committee recently had a phone conference with Billy Casper corporate staff to go over budget figures.

7. A fact sheet will be drafted in the next few weeks by Vice-President Lee, which will be posted online after completion. Members were encouraged to share the information with their friends, neighbors, committee members, etc. in addition to writing letters to City Councilors and Duluth News Tribune to get our positive message out prior to mid-December budget decisions being made by City Councilors.

8. President Stevens has been a guest speaker at the Lester Park Men's Club and will be at the October Lion's Club meeting. If members hear of other area clubs that have an interest in hearing about FODPG, contact him.

Reminder: The City has announced that both golf courses will remain open for 2019; members were encouraged to share the information with their leagues and other interested golfers.

9. The next Meeting will be Monday, October 8 at 5:30pm in the Enger Pavilion. Committees immediately following the full board meeting. THE MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.