

Neighbor Email Inquiry and Questions re: Kayak Point Disc Golf Resort

October 2020

1. I am concerned about the overall condition of the property, and wondering if there were any performance metrics, or appearance requirements that the lessor needs to keep up with? And does the county do routine (weekly, monthly) inspections to enforce the requirements?

Answer: County Park Rangers stationed at nearby Kayak Point County Park stop by weekly, monitor and inspect the site, and meet with the disc golf operator. Division Manager Russ Bosanko, and Park Planning Supervisor Sharon Swan, have stopped by several times over the past few months, to walk and drive the grounds to inspect progress, proposed changes, disc golf course layout, etc.

2. I have never seen the grounds in such poor condition, and it is now only open 4 days a week because they claim that they do not have the budget for payroll. They do not spray weeds, and this has resulted in a massive spread of poison hemlock that is now spreading to surrounding private properties. The other very tall weeds offer a substantial fire danger (since the disc operator does not irrigate) that could spread to hundreds of homes very quickly.

Answer: As part of the disc golf proposal, the vendor indicated unlike typical ball golf they wanted to limit or eliminate entirely the use of any herbicides and pesticides to remove or limit invasive plants which the county parks department encouraged. Approximately 6 weeks ago, a disc golf staff person and the neighbor asking these questions drove the property, took pictures of the poison hemlock and have subsequently removed all poison hemlock identified to date from the 270-acre park site.

3. I have volunteered over the years at the course and have a vested interest in its operational health since we live and own property across the street from the course. I am still unclear just what the current lease involves. I have heard county officials say that it is a month to month agreement, but the managers at the course claim it is an annual lease. And that they control all the assets at the course - restaurant, golf school building, etc..

Answer: A scanned copy of the Concessionaire License Agreement has been added to the Kayak Point Golf Course property webpage.

4. Did the county agree to the 4 days a week operation? I never saw that option in any of the RFP's as a possibility, and I know that the county rejected some bidders claiming that they did not have the financial backing that this operation needs. But, the current lessor cannot afford a

tractor/brush cutter, or an operator to keep the cart paths clear, or open the park property 7 days a week, or utilize the restaurant to generate more public interest, etc., etc. Why were they granted the lease if they cannot fulfill the basic responsibility that it requires?

Answer: The disc golf operator has purchased over 15 golf carts, numerous hand push mowers, and most recently a 11' wide mower to keep the grass down on the fairways and the rest of the property.

5. And to further confuse things, the RFP that came out in February was for?? This seems like very muddy water.

Answer: There have been four (4) RFP (request for proposals) to date with the 1st RFP included only the Kayak Point Golf Course property. The 2nd, 3rd, and 4th RFP highlighted the Kayak Point Golf Course property along with the other 109 county park properties and trails. The four (4) proposals related to the Kayak Golf Course Property have been asked by the County Purchasing Department to put together a visual/oral presentation on Friday, October 9, 2020, which will be evaluated and scored by county park staff and county purchasing staff.

6. I have called and left you a voice mail, twice, hoping that you could answer a few of the above questions. I am concerned about the property's long term trajectory as our county asset is underutilized, undercapitalized and in greater need of restoration as time passes.

Answer: County Parks staff is not aware of receiving the two (2) voicemail messages mentioned above but we try to respond in a timely manner to any questions or concerns raised about Kayak Point or any of our other 110 park properties.

7. And I understand that a 35-year golf lease proposal (from a group of very well-funded and dedicated individuals) was submitted earlier this year, but was never acted upon. Is that proposal still being considered?

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