

**Golf Commission Meeting
August 25, 2014
Minutes**

Members Present: Ron Dray, Chairman; Owen Evans, Vice-Chairman; Teri Deal; Richard DeLibro; Joe DeLuca; Tony Guzzi; Joyce Michaels; Diane Wheeler

Also Attending: Bobby Brown, Director of Golf; Hidalgo Nagashima, Director of Golf Course Property

Members Absent: Jonathan Turk

Ron Dray, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Review and Approval of Prior Minutes:

Review and approval of the Minutes of July 28, 2014 . . . A Motion was made by Mr. Guzzi seconded by Mr. DeLuca to approve the minutes with the change to page 4, 6th bullet point From: “hazards” TO: “greens and bunkers”. Motion carried unanimously.

- Mr. Ron Dray began the meeting by thanking all the Commissioners for their continued time and effort in volunteering to serve. He felt that everyone was doing a great job in working together for the betterment of the golf course.

Audience Participation:

- Mrs. Kristine Miklus, of The Miklus Foundation, and Mrs. Gail Stevens, of NCC’s ConnCap program, thanked the entire Commission, Mr. Brown, Mr. Nagashima, Mrs. Plumeau, the Senior Men’s Club, and most especially the Ladies 9-holers for all the support they gave to the program this season. Over the 6-week session, 74 individual lessons were given to both a boys and (for the first time) a girls group.

Director of Golf Course Properties Report (Hidalgo Nagashima):

Labor:

- Director of Golf Course Properties (Nagashima)
- Assistant Superintendent (Gallant)
- Mechanic (Plaveck)
- Full-time Greensmen (Cook, Romano Markaj)
- Part-time Seasonal (Rodriguez, Ferguson, Hicks, Quinn, Hoeppe, Oleyar, Messina, Riley, Martins, Summerville, Kelley, Harrison, Goodwin, Kelley, Walton)
- Summer Seasonal (Ormsbee, Spangenburg, Matera, Ebert)

Maintenance Department:

- The recent rain and cooler weather has both courses in good shape. The fairways and greens are excellent. The bunkers are holding up as well.
- Half of the greens on the Knolls were aerated today with 5mm tines. The other half will be done this week. The Glen tees will be aerated and seeded next week; followed by the Knolls tees. The Glen greens will be core aerated in mid-September. Also in September the fairway and rough renovation will begin including aeration and seeding of bar areas. Fertilization and lime will be dependent on the results of soil tests.
- The clubhouse painting is complete.
- The rock wall behind the 9th green is complete.
- The lightning sensor has been serviced and reinstalled. It appears to be operational. When asked, Mr. Nagashima stated that there is no Connecticut State licensing for lightning detection systems. He also stated that even though one horn on the course is not functioning, the siren can be heard at the bathrooms. The manufacturer no longer makes replacement horns for our model.
- A drain line has been installed by the 100 yard marker on #2 Knolls.
- Mr. Dray asked Mr. Nagashima to check out a wear mark on one of the new bunkers on #14 Knolls.
- Mr. Evans asked Mr. Nagashima to remind his crew to replace the ropes that they take down when performing maintenance.
- Mr. Evans also asked Mr. Nagashima to check out a burned out spot on the new 18th tee. Mr. Nagashima responded that he would, but thought it was a bad sprinkler head.
- Mrs. Michaels reported an incident where her group was around the bend on the 18th Knolls. The top of a cart in her group was hit by a ball by an individual hitting off of the 18th tee. It is impossible to see around the corner from the tee and a stronger golfer is able to hit a ball that far.
- Mr. DeLuca asked Mr. Nagashima to remind his staff that the placement of rakes on the new bunkers should be on the low side.
- Mr. Evans asked Mr. Nagashima about the narrowing of the entrance to #1 and stated that it is back to its full width and should be corrected.

Green Committee (Owen Evans):

- Mr. Evans asked the Green Committee to advise him of their ability to meet next week to go over a fall maintenance list.

Director of Golf Operations/Head Professional Report (Bobby Brown):**Golf Operations:**

- July Rounds: 9,917 (Knolls 7,738; Glen 3,179) vs. 2013 9,737 (Knolls 6,677; Glen 3,060)
- July Revenue: \$339,405 vs. 2013 \$323,962.
- August is on pace with last year although play seems to be lighter on weekends.
- The new range net on the right side is installed. Repairs to the back net were not as successful as hoped. The holes have been fixed – for now. It should be completely replaced next year.

- The Digital Caddies have been well received. Two questionable ads were removed within one hour of our request.

Outings:

- Ladies 18-holer Member/Member – 56 players
- Men's Club Member/Guest – 60 players
- Men's and Ladies' Club Championships
- Jim Kelley – 40 non-resident players (Friday)
- Ladies 9-holer Member/Member – 51 players
- First Selectman's Cup – 98 players
- US Kids Westchester Tour – 42 players
- Tashua Junior Golf Club – 8 player average (Tuesdays)

Programs:

- Trumbull Continuing Education program starts Monday, September 15th. Several of the participants are coming back to become customers of Tashua.

Thank You'd:

- To the Senior Men's club for volunteering as spotters and transporters for the CT PGA Junior Tour
- To Patrick Dizney and Jim Peloquin for the Monday morning junior free golf program which averaged 33 players per week for ten weeks.
- To the Ladies 9-holers for embracing of the Miklus' ConnCap program and arranging the 9-hole Glen tournament with goodie bags for the participants. Several of the girls showed a great deal of potential and want to continue on with the game of golf.

Fall Specials:

- Commission consensus was given to extend the \$5 coupon on the Glen on Saturdays and Sundays after 3:30 PM
- Commission consensus was also given for the Glen Special to begin the Tuesday after Labor Day for 9-holes with a cart, all day, for \$18, on Mondays – Fridays.

Other

- As is usual practice, all 2014 Pro Shop credit must be redeemed by Monday, December 15th, 2014.
- A Committee will be looking into the possibility of a season pass for the 2015 season.

House Committee (Richard DeLibro & Ron Dray):

- Mr. DeLibro reported that recently a lady had fallen in the ladies room and hurt her knee (although she did refuse treatment). A letter was sent to Mr. Faustini to ask him to address the issue of the slipperiness of the ladies room floor. Mr. Faustini responded that he is trying an anti-skid floor cleaner and mats to "hopefully" solve the problem. Mr. Faustini was issued another letter stating that he was first advised of the slippery floor in the ladies room and that seven years is more than enough time to come up with a permanent solution to the problem.

- At least a dozen boiler alarms were received in the beginning of August. After two attempts by Hulse to fix the problem, it was finally identified as a faulty Fire Matic Valve. There have been no alarms since the valve was replaced. Hulse is going to install a controller on the boiler to help them more easily diagnose problems.
- Aquarian recently completed its annual Customer Cross Connection Inspection Report. A total of four violations were found. Two were for the golf course – a back flow preventer in the pump house and a connection from the outside spigot. Two problems were for Mr. Faustini – a problem with the cold water line to the soda dispenser and a water line supplying the outside fountain. Mr. Faustini was sent a letter requesting the problems be fixed within 30 days as required by Aquarian.
- An Air Scoop was found to be leaking oil on top of the boiler to the restaurant. Mr. Faustini was advised that the problem must be fixed in order to pass a boiler inspection and be turned on in the fall.
- A highly corroded outside electrical box was replaced by Hulse for of the compressor on the golf course side.
- Mr. Dray reported that on the same day the electrical box was replaced, a fire alarm sounded in the ducts above the pro shop. Although the actual cause was not fully identified, it is believed it was the result of the electricity being shut down to replace the box and allowing construction dust into the duct.
- The Town plumber repaired a leak in the new hot water heater, installed a back-flow preventer, and added anti-freeze to the system.
- The front door is on order.
- We have been recertified by Trust Wave to continue accepting credit cards.
- When the old range net was taken down, it was discovered that there was a great deal of damage at the bottom due to lawn mowers and weed whackers. Mr. Dray proposed a solution to solve the problem.

A motion was made by Mrs. Michaels; seconded by Mr. Guzzi; to approve a policy of leaving a 12” swath of grass uncut on either side of the range net that will be treated with herbicide to prevent damage to the net. Motion carried unanimously.

Concessionaire (Mr. Faustini):

None – did not attend.

Finance (Jonathan Turk):

None – did not attend.

Correspondence:

- A letter was received from Mr. Evans requesting that Tashua host the 2015 CSGA's Connecticut Open:

A motion was made by Mr. Guzzi; seconded by Mr. DeLuca; to approve the CSGA's request for Tashua to host the 2015 Connecticut Open Qualification on Monday, July 6, 2015 for 84 players with tee times until 9:30 AM with greens fees waived. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

- One of the Ladies 18-holers has challenged the new slope and rating as performed by the CSGA for the forward tees. In addition our handicap computer has not been updated. Mr. Brown, Mr. Evans and Mr. Dray have been contacting the CSGA to try to get the problems solved.

New Business:

- Mrs. Deal will now be working with Mr. Nagashima and the Maintenance Department to gain a better understanding of their work scheduling.

Executive Session:

Mrs. Wheeler made a motion at 8:30 PM, seconded by Mr. Evans, to move into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to exit Executive session was made by Mr. DeLibro at 9:35 PM and seconded by Mr. Guzzi. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mrs. Michaels at 9:40 PM; seconded by Mrs. Deal to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Plumeau
Golf Course Commission Clerk