

**Golf Commission Meeting  
September 28, 2015  
Minutes**

**Members Present:** Ron Dray, Chairman; Owen Evans, Vice-Chairman; Teri Deal (arrived 7:25 PM); Tony Guzzi; Joyce Michaels; Jonathan Turk (arrived 7:15 PM); Diane Wheeler

**Also Attending:** Bobby Brown, Director of Golf; Hidalgo Nagashima, Director of Golf Course Properties; Scott Lund, Golf Course Superintendent; Stuart McCarthy, Director of Parks and Recreation

**Members Absent:** Richard DeLibro; Joe DeLuca

Ron Dray, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Review and Approval of Prior Minutes:**

Review and approval of the Minutes of August 24, 2015 . . . A Motion was made by Mr. Guzzi seconded by Mrs. Wheeler to approve the minutes as is. Motion carried unanimously.
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**Audience Participation:**

- Mrs. Karen Daly of the Ladies 9-holers reported that their last day of golf for the 2015 season will be October 22nd. Their season ending banquet will be held on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Director of Golf Course Properties & Superintendent Reports** (Hidalgo Nagashima & Scott Lund):

**Labor:**

- Director of Golf Course Properties (Nagashima)
- Golf Course Superintendent (Lund)
- Mechanic (Plaveck)
- Full-time Greensmen (Cook, Romano, Markaj)
- Part-time Greensmen (Oleyar, Quinn, Rodriguez, Martins, Riley, Harrison, Hicks, Hoepfner, Ferguson, Somerville, Riley, Kelley, Walton)
- Summer Seasonal (Bova, Bova, Ormsbee)

**Maintenance Department:**

- **Tashua Glen – (Scott Lund):**
  - The Glen greens were aerated two weeks ago and are healing nicely
  - The Glen fairways were also aerated
  - #9 Glen was dethatched and seeded. The crew was very aggressive with the dethatching which caused some damage. But the area should heal nicely for next season. Additional fairways still require dethatching.

- Several ruts on the Glen were filled and seeded today.
- Mrs. Michaels asked about the possibility of installing a fence at the end of Haviland Drive to prevent trespassers from entering the course. Mr. McCarthy will investigate extending an existing gate with the Town. Mr. Dray will contact the Town about concerned citizens reporting.
- Mr. Evans asked about adding additional ropes on the side of #4 to prevent unauthorized traffic from passing through and causing ruts.
- **Tashua Knolls – (Hidalgo Nagashima):**
  - The Knolls greens were vented with small tines in early September.
  - Soil tests will be conducted to determine if a lime application is necessary.
  - The fairway depressions identified by the Green Committee are being topdressed twice a week.
  - Mr. Dray reported that extensive tree trimming and pruning is taking place. He asked that each Commissioner report any trimming that they may notice.
  - Mr. Turk reported that the #2 Knolls appeared to be very over-watered on Sunday. He also mentioned that Woodway Country Club suffered damage on their greens due to overwatering. Mr. Nagashima responded that he was in the process of adjusting the amount of watering due to changing conditions. He was confident that Tashua would not suffer any damage due to excess water.
  - Mr. Turk also reported that there was a fairly big rock in the #4 green bunker and asked Mr. Nagashima to remove it.

**Green Committee (Owen Evans):**

- None
- **Director of Golf Operations/Head Professional Report (Bobby Brown):**

**Golf Operations:**

- August rounds and revenue were very strong with only one rain day all month.
- September rounds for both the Knolls and Glen is trending higher.
- Racking for tee times has ended for the 2015 season
- All weekend morning tee times are now available seven days in advance via internet, walk-in or over the phone.
- Mr. Brown received Commission consensus to begin weekend 8:30 AM shotgun starts on November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- The RFP for the Golf Cars has been issued and bids are due on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Brown thanked Committee members Mr. Dray, Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Evans, Mr. Bova (Town Purchasing) and Mr. Nagashima.
- Mr. Dray asked that the Commission consider moving up the weekend playing time from 3:00 PM to 1:00 PM for the Employee Golf Program. The temporary change in time is due to the lack of daylight playing time.

**Tournaments:**

- Sept. 14, Newtown Rotary: 88 players
- Sept. 11 – 13, Districts Qualifying and Match Play
- Sept. 12, LPGA Girls Jr./Adult – 48 teams
- Sept. 17, Orchards Women’s Group – 59 players Glen

- Sept 28, Christian Heritage Schools – 32 players. Mr. Brown reported that this was Christian Heritage’s first tournament at Tashua and that they were not pleased with the food selection. Mr. Brown will follow-up with the tournament director and Mr. Faustini.

**Points to Note:**

- All 2015 Pro Shop credits must be redeemed by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
- All rain checks issued in 2015 will expire at the end of the 2015 season.

**House Committee (Ron Dray):**

- The roofing project on the Miklus Center and Clubhouse is scheduled to begin tomorrow – weather permitting.
- The generator is also scheduled to be installed tomorrow.
- The camera that was previously approved by the Commission to be installed has been delayed due to the logistics of its location. The installer and the maintenance department are working together to finish the project.
- The tile color for the ladies room has been approved and Mr. Faustini has been given our list of dates for installation.
- Aquarion Water Company performed its annual inspection. A problem was identified with Domenick’s water feature and his Boiler #1 as well as an additional problem with Boiler #2.
- The oil pump in Boiler Room #1 has gone bad and requires replacement.

**Concessionaire (Mr. Faustini):**

- None – did not attend.

**Finance (Jonathan Turk):**

**August Revenue from POS System**

<b>Total Income (including carts)</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
\$325,429	\$341,408	+4.9%

**Knolls (including carts)**

<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
\$254,853	\$266,591	+4.6%

**Glen (including carts)**

<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
\$72,762	\$75,506	+3.8%

**August Round Analysis:**

<b>Knolls</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
6,669	6,805	+2.0%

<b>Glen</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
3,360	3,427	+2.0%

**Items of Note:**

- Based on the final MUNIS report that ended June 30, 2015, Tashua Knolls retained earnings increased by approximately \$120,000 for the fiscal year. The amount will be final in November when the audit is completed. This amount represents approximately 6% of the total revenue for the fiscal year.
- Next year’s budget process will begin in November. Any long-term project or purchasing to be included in the capital account must be presented along with documentation at the next Commission meeting.

**Correspondence:**

- None

**Old Business:**

- Mr. Brown presented a demo model of the 7” EZ-Go Tech View that is available from them on their new golf cars. The demo was available for any Commissioner to view at the end of the meeting.

**New Business**

- Mr. Dray asked that Mr. Brown inform the Commission of a request by the CSGA to hold their 115<sup>th</sup> Amateur Championship at Tashua Knolls in 2017. This would be the first time in the history of the tournament that it would be held at a public course. Mr. Brown began his discussion with the prestige and publicity that such a tournament would bring to Tashua. He then presented a Knolls revenue analysis of the event:
  - Monday income before 4:30 \$4,727
  - Tuesday income before 4:30 \$6,506
  - Wednesday income before 2:30 \$7,763
  - Thursday income from 8 – 9 and 1 – 2 \$1,890
  - Friday income from 8 – 9 and 1 – 2 \$2,244
  - TOTAL REVENUE \$23,130
  - Subtract Monday (usual to conduct CSGA Event) \$4,727
  - Revised Total \$18,408

The Commissioners began a discussion of the pros of holding the event vs. the cons of the income loss.

Mr. Evans made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wheeler, to approve the CSGA’s request to hold the 115<sup>th</sup> Amateur Championship at Tashua Knolls in June 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

- Mr. Brown asked the Commission to consider a request from Mrs. Julie Jenkins, Coach of the Trumbull High School Girls Golf Team, to hold their CIAC Championship at Tashua Knolls on June 7, 2016 with a fee of \$1,300. A discussion was held with the Commissioners regarding the pros and cons of holding the event. Although Tashua is very supportive of youth golfers, several Commissioners felt that the loss of income was getting too high. Mrs. Michaels suggested that the Commission develop a policy of how many discounted tournaments Tashua should hold.

Mr. Guzzi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Evans, to approve the CIAC's State High School Girls Golf Championship at Tashua Knolls on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 with a 9:00 shotgun for 75 – 85 girls with a fee of \$1,300. Motion carried 3 – 1 (Oppose: Evans); (Abstain: Dray, Michaels, Wheeler)

- Mr. Brown presented a proposal from Connecticut Retail Systems (CRS) for an upgrade to our Point of Sale (POS) system to allow us to be compliant with the new EMV credit card requirements. In October 2015, the credit card companies will shift the liability of credit card fraud to the vendors. The EMV credit card machines will accept the new chip implanted credit cards to lessen the possibility of fraudulent transactions.. The total cost of the proposal is \$8,749.00. In anticipation of this upgrade, the Commission had previously voted to include \$10,000 in the current budget to cover the expense. Commission consensus was given to proceed with the project.
- Mr. Brown asked the Commission to consider implementing a Fall Special on the Glen of 9-holes with a cart for \$20 for Residents and \$25 for Non-residents. The special is the same as last year. The Commission gave its consensus to begin the special on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Mr. Brown asked the Commission to consider implementing a Fall Special on the Knolls for the following:
  - Residents: \$3 off 9-hole green fees; \$5 off 18-hole green fees
  - Non-residents: \$5 of 9-hole green fees; \$10 off 18-hole green fees
 The Commission gave its consensus to begin the Knolls special on October 13th.

**Executive Session:**

Mr. Dray made a motion at 8:10 PM, seconded by Mr. Evans, to move into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Also invited to attend was Mr. Brown and Mr. McCarthy. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to exit Executive session was made by Mr. Guzzi at 8:25 PM and seconded by Mr. Turk. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Mrs. Deal at 8:30 PM; seconded by Mrs. Michaels to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Plumeau  
Golf Course Commission Clerk