

**Golf Commission Meeting
May 23, 2016
Minutes**

Members Present: John Chiota; Richard DeLibro; Joyce Michaels; David Molgard; Frank Squicciarro Jonathan Turk; Diane Wheeler

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

Members Absent: none

Mr. Chiota, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Review and Approval of Prior Minutes:

Review and approval of the Minutes of April 25, 2016 . . . A Motion was made by Mr. DeLibro seconded by Mrs. Michaels to approve the minutes as is. Motion carried unanimously.

Audience Participation:

- Mr. Al DeWalt, Trumbull resident, once again asked about the status of the pond aerators at Tashua and if they would be replaced for the CT Amateur. As he was informed in October 2015, they have proven to be very problematic. In addition to being very expensive to purchase, they are prone to frequent breakdowns and very costly repairs. The Golf Commission has previously voted not to replace them.
- Mrs. Kristine Miklus of the Miklus Foundation took the opportunity to introduce herself to the new members of the Golf Commission. She explained that the Foundation was begun in memory of her husband, Donald Miklus, who was a long-time member of the Commission and very involved in the construction of both the Knolls and Glen courses. The purpose of the Foundation is to promote the game of golf to local youth. Toward that end, in honor of the 40th Anniversary of Tashua Knolls Golf Course, the foundation will be offering \$5 off to any junior playing golf on July 11, 2016.

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

Labor:

- Director of Golf Course Properties
- Golf Course Superintendent
- Mechanic
- Three Full-time Greensmen

- Nine Part-time Greensmen
- Four Summer Seasonal

Tashua Glen:

- Overall playing conditions are good. Maintenance is still seeding spots on #2, #4, and #8 greens which remain a little thin.
- The tees will be aerified on May 23 and 24. The greens will be aerified after Memorial Day.
- All greens and bunker surrounds have been fertilized and treated for crabgrass and grubs.
- The gate on the 4th hole was damaged over the winter and needs repair. We are obtaining a quote from a fence repair company.

Tashua Knolls:

- Mr. Nagashima is generally pleased with course conditions.
- The irrigation pump motor has been repaired and reinstalled.
- The forward tees will be aerified once more to introduce some sand to try to soften the tees.
- All greens and bunker surrounds have been fertilized and treated for crabgrass and grubs.

Projects:

- We are still waiting for the EPA permit for the treatment of the ponds.
- The larger expansion tank was installed by the Town plumber but the backflow preventer is still leaking. Mr. Faustini is aware of the situation.
- The seeding and planting of ornamental grasses alongside #8 is complete.
- The fencing along the parking lot is complete.
- The one side of the Miklus Center building has been power washed and is ready for painting over the next few weeks.
- The yardage monument on #4 Knolls is loose and has been shored up by a rock. It appears that the concrete is compromised and the entire monument will have to be relocated with new cement.

Green Committee (Frank Squiccimarro):

- The maintenance department has been asked to clear the access gates of debris for emergency access.
- The professional staff has been asked to update various pages on the web site. The in-house pages have been updated. The site administrator has been asked to update the remaining pages.
- The maintenance staff has been asked to locate and maintain yardage markers including both CSGA and sprinkler head markers.
- All of the monuments must be inspected for stability.
- Mr. Nagashima has been asked to create a list of jobs waiting for the new excavator so the list may be prioritized.
- Mr. Lund has been asked to create a list of projects for the Glen.
- The parking lots will be painted next year in anticipation of the CT Amateur.
- A discussion of the practice bunker was held. The issue will be revisited in September for work in October. A proposal for a golf course architect will be submitted to the

Commission for consideration. All references to a practice bunker have been removed from the web site for the time being.

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

Golf Operations:

- April 2016 Numbers:
 - Knolls Rounds: 3,240 vs. 5-year avg. 3,584
 - Glen Rounds: 1,365 vs. 5-year avg. 1,312
 - ID's to date: 1,170 vs. 2015 – 1,243
- TEK View is responding well and changing the behavior of our golfers.
- The professional staff is preparing for the 2016 CIAC State Girls Championship on June 7th. Mr. Herbst will be in attendance.
- On Thursday early evening May 19th, three individuals were observed by an employee righting a tipped over golf car in the parking lot. Damage to the cart is estimated at \$1,300. In reviewing the receipts for the golfers it was determined that name of the individuals involved could not be obtained for the credit cards due to the new chip processing procedures. The police are currently investigating the incident. We will be implement a programming change to our Point of Sale system to include the information that a current driver's license must be on file for any individual renting a cart.

Programs:

- Programs are operating at full capacity for both junior and Academy golfers. Mr. Brown commended Mr. Bove for his hard work in getting the programs up and running.
- Trumbull Adult Education program was near capacity. Mr. Brown estimates that 70% of the participants in the program become regular golfers at Tashua.

Upcoming June Outings:

- June 6: Trumbull Rotary noon shotgun
- June 13: Mary's Fund double shotgun
- June 20: St. Vincent double shotgun

House Committee (Dick DeLibro):

- The Town plumber installed the larger expansion tank. However, the black flow preventer to boiler #1 is still leaking. Mr. Faustini is responsible for the repair.
- An on-going situation with the alarm to the septic system occurred in the month of May. On May 10th it was brought to our attention that an alarm had sounded approximately two weeks prior for the septic system. Mr. Faustini had called Bruce Mondo at that time. On the 10th the alarm was again sounding. The problem was eventually fixed on May 11th when it was determined that four floats and two pumps were inoperable. An invoice in the amount of \$4,615 has been issued for the work which includes not only the floats and pumps, but electrical work and multiple pumpings of the tank.
- The yearly fire inspection that is necessary for Mr. Faustini to obtain his liquor license and insurance was conducted on May 17th. Multiple violations were noted and a report issued. Mr. Faustini's insurance expires on May 28th

Finance (Jonathan Turk):

April Revenue from POS System

Total Income (including carts)		
2015	2016	Change
\$152,245	\$166,512	+9.4%

Knolls (including carts)

2015	2016	Change
\$104,523	\$119,131	+14.0%

Glen (including carts)

2015	2016	Change
\$21,385	\$31,126	+45.6%

December Round Analysis:

Knolls		
2015	2016	Change
2,796	3,240	+15.9%

Glen		
2015	20156	Change
970	1,365	+40.7

Carts		
2015	20156	Change
2,287	3,127	+36.7%

- Revenues are up in April compared to last year thanks to favorable spring conditions. Overall the revenues are looking good for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Mrs. Wheeler asked that we consider reporting on the numbers on a 5-year average rather than year over year as the numbers would be more reflective of actual trends. Mr. Turk agreed to report them based on averages going forward.
- The budget and expense numbers are in line with the exception of water which is over budget by 20% and refuse which is 10% over budget. Despite these findings, we are very close to expected fiscal year expenses. Mrs. Michaels asked why we were over in our water account two years in a row. Mr. Turk responded that it is very difficult to predict the amount of rain in a year so the amount of water used for irrigation varies widely. Mr. McCarthy stated that it is generally understood that budgeting for some utility accounts can vary due to unforeseen reasons.

Correspondence:

- Mr. Chiota received a letter from the Connecticut Section of the PGA informing the Commission that Mr. Brown has been named the recipient of the 2016 Public Merchandiser of the Year. Mr. Brown will be honored at the Special Awards Dinner on July 19th at Wethersfield Country Club. Mr. Chiota and the entire Commission congratulated Mr. Brown on this prestigious award.

Old Business:

- Mr. McCarthy updated the Commission on the submission of a 5-year capital plan for the Golf Commission. The Golf Commission had not submitted a capital plan for several years and Mr. McCarthy was under a tight deadline to submit a plan. Submissions include:
 1. Electrical Service Upgrade, \$40,000 in CY 2017
 2. Maintenance Facility Upgrade, \$250,000 in CY 2018
 3. Irrigation System Replacement, \$2,000,000 in CY 2020
 4. Building HVAC and Fire Suppression Replacement

A discussion was held to inform the Commission of the importance of such a plan in conjunction with the work being done by the Financial Planning Committee. Mrs. Michaels questioned the work on the maintenance facility in light of the fact that a renovation was done in 2012 and the fact that the clubhouse appears to require more work than the maintenance facility. Mr. McCarthy responded that these are only starting points and that much more planning and discussion must take place. To that end, the electrical upgrade that was postponed in the winter due to the early opening was discussed for fall completion.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wheeler; seconded by Mrs. Michaels to proceed with a project for electrical line upgrade at the Tashua Knolls complex not to exceed \$40,000. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

- None

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Molgard at 8:47 PM; seconded by Mr. Squicciarro to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Plumeau
Golf Course Commission Clerk