

AS SUBMITTED

**Golf Commission Meeting
October 19, 2009
Minutes**

Members Present: Thomas Galla, Chairman; Owen Evans, Vice-Chairman; Sue Casey; Ron Dray; Don Espach; George Furkiotis; Bruce Gerstman; Tony Johnson

Members Absent: Jim Steidlemayer

Chairman Tom Galla called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Review and approval of the Minutes

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| Review and approval of the Minutes of September 28, 2009... There was a motion made by Mr. Evans seconded by Mr. Espach to approve the minutes as is. Motion carried unanimously. |
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Audience Participation:

- None.

Director of Golf Course Properties Report (Hidalgo Nagashima)

Labor:

- Director of Operations – Golf Course Properties (Hidalgo Nagashima); Mechanic (Rich Plaveck); Four full-time greensmen (Jeff Cook, Jerry Cook, Chris Gallant, Craig Romano)
- Eight part-time greensmen (Oleyar, DeFrancisco, Goodwin, Walton, Markaj, Valluzzo, Hoepfner, Meier).
- Mr. Nagashima and Mr. Brown have been discussing ways to limit part-time labor for the fall by having the staff be more project driven vs. maintenance driven.

Maintenance Department Outline:

- The Knolls were aerated and rolled on October 15th. The aeration worked in our favor as the heavy rain over the weekend drained well.
- The par three tees, both tees on #8 and the back tee on #9 were slice-seeded with rye.

- The Glen greens were verticut and topdressed last week.
- Mr. Nagashima and Mr. Brown have generated a “Goals by Holes” document to address specific improvements. They have also met with Mr. Evans to generate a winter project list.

Projects:

- The maintenance department has marked trees that are either dead or dying. Long Hill Tree has been contacted for winter work to begin removing the trees in order of those that would have the most impact on the course should they fall down.
- The bunkers have begun to be prepared for sodding of the drag-out areas. The first bunkers scheduled for work are #17, #2 and #12. The bunker on #6 Glen will be sodded as well.
- Most of the “naturalized” areas have been mowed.
- The brush is continuing to be removed between #11 Knolls and #8/9 Glen.
- A compressor has been reserved for November 11 to blowout the irrigation system for winter. The on-course bathrooms will be shut down on that date as well. The cart barn bathrooms will remain open until the weather freezes.

Greens Committee (Owen Evans):

- Mr. Evans presented the Commission with a list of projects for the Tashua Knolls and Glen courses. The list was generated together with Mr. Brown and Mr. Nagashima.
- The Highway department has informed us that they have modified the intersection of Haviland and Cal to allow for access of fire vehicles onto Cal Drive. The fire department has tested the intersection and found that the equipment can navigate the intersection. All that remains is final approval from the fire department. This work will eliminate the need for access to Cal Drive from the golf course parking lot.

Head Professional Report (Jon Janik)

Tournaments:

- October 5: Apraxia – 57 players
- October 6: MDA – 104 players
- October 12: Democratic Town Committee – 79 players

Junior Instructional Programs:

- Instructional Programming October: 13 participants
- Adult/Junior October: 14 juniors/13 adults
- Final Instructional programs for the 2009 season: 153 participants
 - Little Linkers: 51 participants
 - Level I – 78 participants
 - Level II – 24 participants

Adult Instructional Programs:

- Have ended for the 2009 golf season

CTPGA Jr. Golf Tournament:

- Contacted Sally Sohn from the CT PGA. The only open dates for the 2010 season are three Thursdays (Ladies clubs) and one Tuesday (Sr. Men's club). A date will be pursued for the 2011 season.

Pro Shop:

- New arrivals in the pro shop include fall outerwear by Chase Edward and Footjoy, NFL accessories, and 2010 PING equipment.
- All pro shop credits must be redeemed by December 15, 2009
- All rain checks will expire on closing day for the 2009 season as well.

General Manager Report (Bobby Brown)

Overview:

- September 2009 rounds Knolls: 5,910 (5,055 in 2008); Glen: 2,276 (1,814 in 2008)
- September 2009 revenue: \$277,8558 (\$242,016 in 2008)
- The rounds and revenue for September we up for the same time period due to good weather, specials, and the date of Labor Day.

Plant and Facility:

- The Tashua Knolls Lane front sign was installed on October 19th. The area will be sodded and seeded to stabilize the dirt. The Golf Commission contributed \$4,000 to the project that was donated by the Kaulbach trust. A picture of the sign was distributed to the Commission. The Commission questioned how and why the sign was changed from the original one that was approved by the Commission. Mr. Brown will ask Mr. Paris, Parks Supervisor, and Mr. Del Vecchio, Director Public Works, why the sign was changed.
- Our maintenance equipment is being evaluated for the 2010 season. Also the situation regarding the insulation in the clubhouse attic will be addressed.
- The location for the new scoreboard will be marked out and the Commissioners will be given the opportunity to give their final approval.
- Mr. Brown met with Mr. Fausitini, Concessionaire, to request an alternate location for his storage areas. Mr. Faustini responded that using the area downstairs was not ideal and he suggested only taking up half of the patio space as originally proposed. Although most Commissioners sympathized with Mr. Faustini regarding his storage needs, they felt that the patio area is the most congested area around the clubhouse. With the addition of a new scoreboard in that area, the congestion will only worsen. It was suggested that Mr. Faustini

erect a storage shed near the back end of the parking lot or determine if there are any other acceptable areas. Mr. Brown will meet with Mr. Faustini to convey the Commission's determination.

Golf Operations:

- Shotgun starts will begin on Saturday, November 7th at 8:30 AM pending frost delays. The fall specials will be in effect on Monday, October 26th as well.
- Thanksgiving Day will be the 5th Annual Thanksgiving Shotgun at 8:30. The Golf course will close for the remainder of the day after the shotgun.
- Analysis has begun to establish rates for the 2010 golf season.
- Preparations are beginning for the 2010/2011 budget. Meetings will begin with golf course staff and Mr. Evans and Mr. Espach.

House Committee (Tony Johnson):

- Mr. Johnson asked that we revisit the issue of the thermostat in the pro shop for the 2011 budget. Mr. Galla asked that we also look into the possibility of fixing the underside of the overhangs on the patio and front entrance as well.

Executive (Tom Galla)

The Executive Committee (Mr. Galla, Mr. Evans, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Espach) met with Mr. Brown and Mr. Chuck Kelley on October 14th. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Mr. Kelley's suspension of golf privileges due to his behavior at a recent function at the Tashua Knolls restaurant. Mr. Evans provided the Commission with a summary of the meeting in which Mr. Kelley's version of the story was not as severe as the Commission has been led to believe. Mr. Evans felt that Mr. Kelley's golfing privileges be reinstated and he be issued a warning that further such behavior on his part could result in further suspension.

Mr. Espach felt that the punishment was warranted and the Commission originally made the right decision and the message had been sent that this type of behavior will not be tolerated. He agreed with Mr. Evans that there is nothing further to be gained by continuing the suspension. Mr. Johnson said that he felt Mr. Kelley could have showed more remorse over the issue, but he agreed that the Commission's point had been made and the suspension should be lifted.

Mr. Dray expressed concern that the Commission would be seen as backing down on the issue, particularly since we had a previous "admission of guilt" on the part of Mr. Kelley. All Commissioners agreed that the action taken by the Commission was correct. The Commission felt that he was guilty but that the Commission should have called Mr. Kelley prior to finding him guilty. It was also felt that Mr. Kelley was asked to appear before the Commission to state his case, which he did. However, after meeting with Mr. Kelley it was the Executive Committee's recommendation that his suspension be lifted.

The Commission will also be generating a standard procedure to establish a protocol to handle similar issues in the future. But, the Commission agreed that no two issues are exactly the same and will continue to have to be looked at on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Evans made a motion; seconded by Mr. Gerstman to reinstate the golf privileges of Mr. Chuck Kelley and issue him a letter stating the consequences of any further such behavior. Motion carried (Abstain; Dray, Galla).

Finance (Don Espach)

- None

Correspondence

- Michele Wasikowski, President of the Apraxia Resource Center of Connecticut, sent a letter thanking the staff of Tashua Knolls for their courtesy and professionalism at their recent tournament. It was the first time that ARCC has held a tournament at Tashua.

New Business

Mr. Galla informed the Commission that, effective immediately, he was resigning from the Tashua Knolls Golf Commission due to the fact that he was moving out of Trumbull. Mr. Galla wanted to thank each and every Commissioner for their hard work on behalf of the golf course. He is very, very proud of the dedication and work of the current Commissioners and every Commissioner who came before. He is also proud of the course itself and the improvements that continue to be made at the course. He thanked Mr. Brown, Mr. Nagashima, and Mr. Janik, and Ms. Plumeau for their dedicated work at the course as well. Mr. Galla has been proud to work with each of those individuals.

Mr. Evans thanked Mr. Galla for his service to the Commission and appreciates everything he has done for the course over the past 11 years. Mr. Evans felt that “thank you” is not nearly enough to cover everything that Mr. Galla has accomplished.

Mr. Dray echoed the opinions of Mr. Evans and said that until he joined the Commission recently, he had no idea how much work was actually involved. Mr. Dray had a great respect for Mr. Galla and all of the work he has done on behalf of Tashua Knolls.

The other Commissioners agreed whole-heartedly and thanked Mr. Galla as well. Everyone on the Commission will miss him.

Old Business

- None.

A motion to adjourn at 8:43 PM was made by Mr. Furkiotis; seconded by Mr. Espach.
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Plumeau
Golf Commission Clerk