

**AS SUBMITTED**

**Golf Commission Meeting  
November 23, 2009  
Minutes**

**Members Present:** Owen Evans, Acting Chairman; Sue Casey; Ron Dray (arrived at 7:50 PM); Don Espach; George Furkiotis; Bruce Gerstman

**Members Absent:** Tony Johnson; Jim Steidlemayer

Acting Chairman Owen Evans called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

**Review and approval of the Minutes**

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| Review and approval of the Minutes of October 19, 2009... There was a motion made by Mr. Espach seconded by Mr. Gerstman to approve the minutes as is. Motion carried unanimously. |
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**Audience Participation:**

- Diane Viera, incoming President of the Ladies 18 Holes took the opportunity to introduce herself and incoming Vice-President, Kathy Davidson to the Golf Commission

**Director of Golf Course Properties Report** (Bobby Brown for 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)
- Five part-time greensmen (DeFrancisco, Goodwin, Markaj, Hoepfner, Meier). Last day worked for the season is scheduled for November 26.

**Maintenance Department Outline:**

- Began work on the winter project list.
- The dirt pile and gopher holes by the #6 bathroom are being fixed.
- Began work on the #16 bunker complex.
- Rebuilding #12 bunker drag out area.
- The leaves are 95% removed.

- Replaced the footings and front posts on the rain shelter near #16.
- Final fungicide application for the season is scheduled for the next two weeks.
- The irrigation system is winterized.
- The pump house is 90% winterized.
- Bathrooms and pump house will be completely shut down after Thanksgiving.

**Projects:**

- Long Hill Tree has been lined up for \$15,000 of winter tree work.
- Bunker edges have been sodded
- Continuing brush removal between #11 Knolls and #8/9 Glen
- Research is beginning on chemical storage requirements

**Greens Committee (Owen Evans):**

- Mr. Evans presented the Commission with some photos of other park signs around Town and the Commission has agreed that the new Tashua sign is in compliance with the other signs.

**Head Professional Report (Jon Janik)**

**Golf Operations:**

- Thanksgiving Week Schedule: Thursday - 8:30 AM shotgun; Friday, Saturday and Sunday – 9:00 AM shotgun.
- Weekend shotguns will start at 9:00 AM for the remainder of the season.
- Because the Sr. Men’s club season has ended, regular tee times will begin at 8:00 AM on Wednesdays.

**New Tournaments:**

- May 10: Kiwanis – deposit received
- August 9: Wounded Warriors
- September 28: New Vision International – deposit received

**Returning Tournaments:**

- May 3 – Trumbull Father’s Club
- June 14 – University of Bridgeport
- August 2 – Don Miklus Memorial
- October 4 - Apraxia

**Junior Instructional Programs:**

- 2009 junior programs concluded in October. Totals will be analyzed to prepare for the 2010 season.

## **CTPGA:**

- Contacted by Tom Hantke of the CTPGA and July 19 scheduled for the 2010 CTPGA Junior Tour Event

## **Pro Shop:**

- End of season clearance sales are continuing.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Holiday Customer Appreciation Night open to all customers is scheduled for December 9 at the pro shop and will include complimentary hor d'oeuvres and merchandise sales.
- All golf shop credits must be redeemed by December 15, 2009.

## **General Manager Report (Bobby Brown)**

### **Overview:**

- October 2009 rounds Knolls: 3,148 (3,398 in 2008); Glen: 1,272 (1,393 in 2008)
- October 2009 revenue: \$147,526 (\$156,633 in 2008)
- Poor weather on at least one weekend day for the last three weekends in October contributed to the lower numbers.
- As of November 22, the November revenue for 2009 surpassed the revenue for 2008.

### **Plant and Facility:**

- The Tashua Knolls Lane front sign was corrected and re-installed. Sod and hay bales have been positioned in the area to prevent erosion. All other open areas have been seeded and hayed. We are awaiting installation of the solar lights.
- Bid specs are being drawn up for insulating the clubhouse attic.
- The maintenance contract with Fairfield Sprinkler has been executed.
- Domenick Faustini, Concessionaire, has agreed to construct or purchase a storage shed that will be placed at the lower end of the parking lot. He will also enlarge his present indoor storage area toward the inside of the building in his present space.
- The area for the new scoreboard pilings was marked out.
- Contractors are providing estimates on repair of the underside of the front and back patios. They are recommending covering the area with vinyl sheeting for a cleaner look and easier maintenance.
- The furnace in the maintenance barn has been deemed a hazard due to its leaking carbon monoxide. Two bids have been received thus far. We are awaiting one more bid, but the final cost for replacement should be around \$3,000.00.

## **Golf Operations:**

- 70 players have been booked for the Thanksgiving Day shotgun.
- A rate comparison is being finalized and will be presented at the December meeting.
- Mr. Brown had an initial meeting with incoming First Selectman, Tim Herbst, incoming Treasurer, John Ponzio, and Ron Dray to discuss course status.
- Mr. Brown presented the Commission with information regarding Golf Channel's third party tee time booking engine. There is no contract required and the agreement can be cancelled at anytime. The only cost to the course is a foursome of golf each day the services are utilized. It is up to Tashua Knolls to determine which times will be made available on Golf Channel. The Commission discussed the proposal and agreed to analyze underutilized times to possibly begin using the service in April 2010.
- A date of Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> (weather permitting) was proposed for the closing date of the 2009 season. The Commission concurred.

## **House Committee** (Owen Evans for Tony Johnson):

- The condition of both sets of entry doors to the clubhouse was discussed. It was agreed that Mr. Ron Dray would assess the condition and age of the doors to determine whether they can be satisfactorily repaired or should be replaced. He will report back at the December Commission meeting.
- The condition of the rug in the pro shop was also discussed. The Commissioners will evaluate the condition of the rug to determine if it should be included for replacement in the next fiscal budget.

## **Executive** (Owen Evans)

- None

## **Finance** (Don Espach)

- The revenue for the 2009 season is about equal to that of 2008 but the expenditures are slightly lower than 2008. Barring any unforeseen expenses, we should finish the fiscal year with a surplus.

## **Correspondence**

- The Tashua Knolls Ladies 18 Holvers has requested block time and two tournaments for the 2010 season:

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| Mr. Dray made a motion; seconded by Mr. Espach to approve the Tashua Knolls Ladies 18 holvers request for block time for the 2010 season on Thursday mornings beginning in April and ending in October. Motion carried unanimously. |
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Mr. Gerstman made a motion; seconded by Mr. Furkiotis to approve the Tashua Knolls Ladies 18 holers request for a SNEWGA tournament on Thursday, June 17 with an 8:00 AM shotgun start for 80 golfers with carts and resident rates. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Furkiotis made a motion; seconded by Mr. Espach to approve the Tashua Knolls Ladies 18 holers request for a Member/Member tournament on Thursday, July 29 with an 8:00 AM shotgun start for 80 golfers with carts and resident rates. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Old Business**

- Mr. Evans asked if the Commissioners had the opportunity to observe the proposed fittings for the new scoreboard and if they were in agreement as to the proposed placement. The Commission was in consensus of the placement.

### **New Business**

- Mr. Evans asked if the old spike cleaners should be re-installed to their former placement on the patio outside the pro shop. There was a discussion as to the appearance, safety, location, and cleanliness of the old spike cleaners. Mr. Brown will research other options for discussion at the December meeting.
- Mr. Espach proposed a budget for the 2010/11 fiscal year for the Tashua Knolls Golf Course of \$1,946,491 slightly lower than fiscal 2009/10. Mr. Espach asked that if any Commissioner had questions regarding the budget they contact him prior to the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting so a final vote on the budget can be made at that time. It was also reported that our retained earnings went from \$637,000 in 06/07 down to \$253,000 in 07/08, but should come up to approximately \$300,000 in 08/09 and we are on track to add an additional \$50,000 in 09/10. It was agreed that everyone felt more comfortable with \$350,000 in retained earnings.

A motion to adjourn at 8:50 PM was made by Mr. Gerstman; seconded by Mr. Furkiotis. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Plumeau  
Golf Commission Clerk