

AS SUBMITTED

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

Members Present: Thomas Galla, Chairman; Owen Evans, Vice-Chairman; Sue Casey; Ron Dray; George Furkiotis; Bruce Gerstman; Jim Steidlmayer

Members Absent: Don Espach; Tony Johnson

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

Review and approval of the Minutes

Review and approval of the Minutes of February 23, 2009... There was a motion made by Mr. Steidlmayer seconded by Mr. Gerstman to approve the minutes as is. Motion carried unanimously.
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Mr. Galla started the meeting by commenting on the condition of the course this past “preview” weekend. The course was opened on Saturday and Sunday only and then closed again during the week. Mr. Galla felt that the course weathered the winter nicely and was in great shape. Mr. Galla was looking forward to the start of a great golf season.

Audience Participation

- None

General Manager Report (Bobby Brown)

Golf Operations:

- To date 337 IDs were sold compared to 255 in 2008 on the same date. Revenue comparison was \$34,033 in 2009 versus \$16,259 in 2008.
- The course “preview” resulted in 95 Knolls rounds and 46 Glen rounds on Saturday as well as 135 Knolls rounds and 72 Glen rounds on Sunday.
- To date 15 tournaments have been booked for the 2009 season. This figure includes four new organizations: The Trumbull Father’s Clubs, University of Bridgeport, Apraxia Resource Center, and the Dylan Fortunato Golf Tournament..
- Mr. Brown asked the Commission to consider a range enhancement consisting of an extension and leveling of the left side of the driving range tee to facilitate equipment fitting. The cost for materials and labor for the project will be borne by ATK Golf Services. The Commission gave their permission to proceed.

Marketing:

- The success of the preview and early ID renewals can be attributed to the implementation of the email “blasts” which have already been used twice this season. During the 2008 season, customers were asked to provide their email addresses for the purpose of receiving notification of various golf specials and notices. The database will strictly be used in-house and will not be shared with anyone.
- Season opening informational ads are scheduled for the Trumbull Times on March 11 and 18 and April 2 and 16.
- An Open House is scheduled for March 26 from 5:30 to 8:00 PM. To date 100 people have RSVPd.

Golf Course Maintenance:

- Director of Operations – Golf Course Properties (Hidalgo Nagashima); Mechanic (Rich Plaveck); Four full-time greensmen (Jeff Cook, Jerry Cook, Chris Gallant, Craig Romano)
- Four part-time greensmen (Ron Russimano, Bob Oleyar, Vinny DeFrancisco, and Joe Goodwin) have been hired to date.
- The course as dried nicely from the winter. Nearly all of the amenities have been put out on the course. All the greens are open and the Knolls have been mowed.
- As is our spring opening practice, the Knolls will be topdressed and aerated on March 30 and 31 depending on weather. The Glen will be aerated the following week.
- Long Hill performed four days of service removing the larger trees. The stump grinding service is scheduled for March 24.
- The irrigation problem on the 11th green was repaired according to USGA recommendations and the area roped off. The area will be maintained at collar level but treated so that it can be reverted back to green once the ground has healed.
- The drainage project on #9 and #1 is still open. One more lateral drain is being installed so the project can be completed.
- Pond #1 has been filled. The valve for Pond #2 broke during the winter and must be replaced to allow the pond to fill.
- The shelter on #7 is being repaired.
- Mr. Dan Dobas of the Ernie Kaulbach organization has been contacted to request \$4,000 for improving the entry to Tashua Knolls Lane as well as \$1,500 for guardrails on Glen #1.
- An estimate to repair two pond aerators with blown motors came in at \$2,700. A brief discussion was held regarding the on-going costs involved with keeping the aerators working. The Commission felt that although the aerators provided an aesthetically pleasing aspect to the ponds, they did nothing to improve the quality of the water or eliminate the algae problem. A third aerator needed minor repairs and is now operational and will be installed in one of the ponds.

Mr. Galla made a motion; seconded by Mr. Furkiotis not to authorize repair of the two aerators with the blown motors.. Motion carried unanimously.

Policy Amendments:

Mr. Brown proposed the following policy amendments be made to the Golf Commission's Rules and Regulations:

1. Alcohol Policy: All alcohol consumed on the golf course must be purchased from the concessionaire who holds the liquor license. Bringing alcohol and medium to large coolers will be prohibited. All small coolers may be subject to search. The Commission held a discussion regarding banning alcohol from the course completely.
2. Employee Golf Policy: Maintain the same hours of employee golf on the Knolls. Establish the hours of golf for the Glen as any time during the week and after 1:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday, space permitting. Employee golf cart policy revised to charge employees a \$5 cart fee and employee must be 18 years of age with a valid driver's license.
3. Rain Check Policy: Implement a rain check policy of an expiration of 90 days after issuance. Currently they do not expire. The Commission held a discussion as to having the rain checks expire in 90 days versus the end of the season.

Mr. Steidlemayer made a motion; seconded by Mr. Evans to ban all alcohol on the course not purchased from the concessionaire. All large coolers will be banned and small coolers will be subject to search. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Steidlemayer made a motion; seconded by Mr. Evans to revise the Employee Golf Policy to allow employee play on the Glen any time during the week and after 1:00 on the weekend subject to availability. Revise Employee Golf Cart policy to implement a \$5 fee and require operators to be 18 years of age with a valid driver's license. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gerstman made a motion; seconded by Mr. Steidlemayer to implement an expiration date of end-of-season to all rain checks issued. Motion carried 6 - 1 (Abstain: Dray)

Mr. Evans will revise and reissue the Golf Commission Rules and Regulations based on the policy changes voted on.

Greens Committee (Owen Evans)

- Mr. Evans will issue a new Winter Project List based on what has been accomplished. Although many projects on the list were completed, several projects could not be completed due to the severe ice this winter.

Plant and Facility (Tony Johnson):

- The State of Connecticut performed the required boiler and water heater inspection. The cost of inspection was \$40 per unit. The only problem detected was a leaking valve to the dishwasher booster in the kitchen area. Mr. Faustini will be advised of the required repair, which must be made by April 20.
- United Alarm performed our annual fire alarm inspection. No problems were found.

Food and Beverage:

- None

Executive (Tom Galla)

- None.

Finance (Don Espach)

- Mr. Brown and Mr. Espach will meet with the Town auditors on Wednesday to go over the depreciation expenditures of the golf course. The Board of Finance approved the golf budget with a \$4,000 reduction. Next Thursday the budget goes before the Town Council L&A for further approval.

Correspondence

- None.

New Business

- Mr. Chris Lenzen of the Men's Club has requested permission to install a golf scoreboard by the practice green near the Glen. The scoreboard would be approximately 20' wide and would have a roof and be lit. The Commission was receptive to the idea and asked for further information including a rendering of the scoreboard.

Old Business

- None.

A motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM was made by Mr. Furkiotis; seconded by Mr. Gerstman. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Plumeau
Golf Commission Clerk