

**Golf Commission Meeting
November 2, 2010
Minutes**

Members Present: Don Espach, Chairman; Owen Evans, Vice-Chairman; Ron Dray; Dave Galla; Bruce Gerstman; Tony Johnson; Jim Steidlmayer; Jonathan Turk

Members Absent: George Furkiotis

Don Espach called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Review and approval of the Minutes:

Review and approval of the Minutes of October 25, 2010...A motion was made by Mr. Gerstman seconded by Mr. Steidlmayer to approve the minutes with the change to the first motion on pg 6 to read "15 feet". Motion carried unanimously.
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Audience Participation:

- Mr. Al DeWalt, representing the Sr. Men's Club, commented on the change to the handicap car policy voted on at the October Commission meeting. He stated that the change from 15' from the greens to 25' for handicap cars would prove a burden for some of the senior golfers. He asked that the Commission consider rescinding the motion.
- Mrs. Diana Vieira, in-coming President, Tashua Knolls Ladies 18 Holvers, introduced herself to the Commission.

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)
- Three part-time greensman (Markaj, DeFrancisco, Rivera)
- Five part-time Seasonal (Bowden, Reich, Edvardson, Messina, Stan)
- Two part-time Weekend (Plumeau, Bird) – all weekend help works between 4 – 8 hours per week.

Maintenance Department Outline:

- The Knolls greens were verti-drained on October 29 with a ½” solid tine. The greens were rolled immediately afterward. Final preparations for winter will include two snow mold sprays to protect the course from winter diseases. The 7th and 8th green on the Glen and the 8th and 9th on the Knolls will be covered for winter.
- The low spot on the 5th fairway looks good. The other depressions on the fairways will be raised as directed by the Green Committee. The fairways and tees will be dormant fed with fertilizer already in stock.
- Leaf clean-up at the course is nearly complete.

Maintenance Department Follow-up:

- The irrigation system is being winterized this week. The water will be shut off on the course and range. The on-course bathrooms will be open for another few weeks depending on the weather.
- The Green Committee met to discuss projects which will focus on drainage, bunker edges, raising fairway depressions, and normal tree work.
- Footings were poured for the rain shelter on the Glen. The placement for the shelter is next to the 4th tee area. The materials are on order and the dimensions will be similar to the shelter on #16.
- Some of the older or junked equipment, including a fairway unit and turf tractor, will be brought up to the auction held by Turf Products. The old truck for the former maintenance supervisor will be brought to the highway department for auction. Mr. Brown will ask the Town for any conflicts in bringing equipment to an outside vendor for auction.

Green Committee (Owen Evans):

- The Green Committee project list was distributed to the Commission. Mr. Espach asked that the list be distributed to the Commission members prior to the meeting so that individual items could be discussed.
- As always, Mr. Evens requests that any input for green work be submitted to the Committee.
- Mr. Turk asked about the amount of sand on the bunker on #4. Mr. Nagashima reported that because a great deal of sand is lost in the winter to blowing winds, additional sand will be added in the spring to all bunkers.

Head Professional Report (Jon Janik):

- Thanksgiving week schedule:
 - Thursday – 8:30 AM shotgun
 - Friday – 9:00 AM double tee start
 - Saturday & Sunday – 9:00 AM shotgun
- Weekend shotguns will start at 9:00 AM for the remainder of the season

- Due to the end of the Senior Men's Club season, Wednesdays will return to regular tee time schedule.

Tournaments:

- Currently contacting existing organizations to secure dates for next season
- June 28 – CTPGA Junior Golf Tour
- August 22 – U.S. Kids Summer Tour Championship

Pro Shop:

- End of season clearance sales continue in the pro shop
- 2nd Annual Holiday Customer Appreciation Night is December 8 at the pro shop and will feature raffles, merchandise sales and is open to all
- All pro shop credits must be redeemed by December 15, 2010

Instructional Programs:

- Half Day Short Game schools:
 - November 13 – 10 participants
 - November 20 – 16 participants

General Manager Report (Bobby Brown):

Golf Overview:

- October 2010 rounds: 5,801 (Knolls – 4,139; Glen 1,662) vs. Knolls – 3,148 and Glen – 1,272 in 2009.
- October total income for 2010 \$178,008 vs. \$147,526 in 2009
- November rounds and revenue are trending equal 2009
- Planning for the 2011/2012 budget has begun. Any requested budget items should be forwarded to Mr. Espach or Mr. Galla by December 1. The budget must be submitted to the First Selectman's office by December 31.

Plant & Facility:

- Mr. Brown met with the golf course mechanic, Mr. Richard Plavek, to evaluate the condition of older assets.
- The maintenance area is being cleaned up of any unused or retired equipment.

Golf Operations:

- Fall specials for 2010 have been well received and have brought many first time Tashua golfers to the course.
- November weekend shotguns have been well attended and rounds on the Glen continue to be steady.

- Mr. Brown spoke with Pellucid Research Company and found that the average public course is going to do about 36,000 rounds this year. Tashua is well above the nation's average with approximately 43,000 rounds.
- The golf car lease agreement is now with the Town Attorney for signature. Once signed, we should be able to take receipt of the new cars.
- The snow plowing issue between the golf course and the Concessionaire, Mr. Domenick Faustini, is still in arbitration.

House Committee (Tony Johnson):

- The routine winter maintenance has been performed on the clubhouse HVAC system.
- A problem with the pro shop heating unit has been fixed.
- Mr. Galla will follow-up with Town Hall to determine the status of the encumbered funds to insulate the clubhouse attic.

Finance (Dave Galla):

MUNIS report with up-to-date revenue was unavailable from Town of Trumbull at time of Commission meeting

Monthly revenue for October (Reported by C. Plumeau)

<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Change</u>
\$174,008.00	\$147,526.08	18%

2010 October MTD Sales

- Total rounds up and cart usage up (YOY)
- Glen and Knolls up 30% (YOY)

<u>Cart Sales</u>		
2010	2009	Change
4,158	2,961	40.4%

<u>Knolls Rounds</u>		
2010	2009	Change
4,139	3,148	31.48%

<u>Glen Rounds</u>		
2010	2009	Change
1,662	1,272	30.66%

Annual Revenue

<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Change</u>
\$1,973,165.79	\$1,930,746.58	+2%

Revenue and Expenses

- 2010 tracking \$42,000 ahead of 2009 (YOY)

Budget

- Budget meeting scheduled November, 2010 to discuss next fiscal year.
 - Mr. Brown, Mr. Janik, Mr. Espach, Mr. Galla, Mr. Nagashima, and Mrs. Plumeau will attend the meeting.

Correspondence:

Mr. Johnson made a motion; seconded by Mr. Gerstman to approve the Tashua Knolls Ladies 18 holers requests as follows:

- 1) Block time for the 2011 season on Thursday mornings beginning in April and ending in October.
- 2) Member/Guest Tournament on Thursday, July 28, 2011 with an 8:00 AM shotgun start for 80 golfers with carts at resident rates.
- 3) Southern Connecticut Women's Golf Association Tournament on Thursday, September 29, 2011 with an 8:00 AM shotgun start for 80 golfers with carts at resident rates.

Motion carried 7 – 1: Abstain: Evans

- Mr. Evans questioned the Ladies 18 holers if the Southern Connecticut Women's Golf Association was granted resident rates at other courses. Mrs. Vieira did not know the answer, but added that resident rates at Tashua for this tournament have been granted for many years.

Mr. Johnson made a motion; seconded by Mr. Galla to approve the Tashua Knolls Senior Men's Club requests as follows:

1. Block time for the 2011 season on Wednesday mornings beginning in April and ending in November.
2. Interclub Event on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 with an 8:00 AM start time for 100 golfers with carts at resident rates.
3. Junior Golf Event on Tuesday, July 12, 2011 with an 8:00 AM start time on both the Knolls and the Glen.

Motion carried unanimously.

- Mrs. Kristine Miklus of The Donald Miklus Foundation submitted two letters to the Commission. The first letter thanked the individual Golf Commission members for sponsoring a hole at the 3rd annual Don Miklus Memorial Tournament. The second letter thanked Mr. Brown, Mr. Janik, and Mrs. Plumeau for their help at the tournament.

Old Business:

A motion was made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Johnson to formally change the following in the Golf Course Rules and Regulations:

Section II – Operating Procedures
Paragraph I – Golfers with Disabilities
Subparagraph 3

FROM: “Operators with blue flags may enter inside roped areas but may park carts no closer than 15 feet (i.e. 5 paces from tees or greens). During “cart path only days,” blue flag policies will not apply.”

TO: “Golfers with blue flags may enter inside roped areas but must park carts no closer than 25 feet from greens. Any individual found in violation of the 25 foot regulation will be given a warning and name taken to be record in the pro shop. If an individual violates the 25 foot regulation a second time, the individual will lose the privilege to use a handicap cart for the remainder of the season. During “cart path only days,” blue flag policies will not apply.”

Motion carried unanimously.

- A discussion was held as to why the Rules & Regulations should be voted on separately from the motion. Mr. Espach stated that in the future when voting on a motion that changes one of our Rules and Regulations, a second vote is not necessary but we must recognize that a simple majority is not sufficient; an affirmative vote of six Commissioners is required.

New Business:

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Steidlmayer to approve Jonathan Janik’s request to hold the CTGA Junior Tour event on Tuesday, June 28, 2011. Greens fees of \$18 for 18 holes and \$12 for 9 holes is requested. Motion carried unanimously.

- Mr. Brown asked for a clarification of the section of the section of the Rules & Regulations that referred to “golf bags or carts” allowed on tees, greens, or collars. There could be confusion in the Regulations as to “carts” referring to pull carts as well as motorized vehicles.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerstman, seconded by Mr. Johnson to change the reference to “riding golf cars” wherever it appears in the Rules & Regulations. Motion carried 7 – 1; Abstain: Dray.

- Mr. Brown suggested the date of Sunday, December 19 as the official closing day of the course for the 2010 season. A discussion ensued as to the possibility of inclement weather prior to or mild weather after that date.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Steidlmayer to close the course on December 19, 2010 at the discretion of the General Manager and Golf Course Properties Director with approval of the Chairman of the Golf Commission. Motion carried 7 – 1; Abstain: Johnson.

- Mr. Bruce Gerstman informed the Commission that after 10 years of service, he has not sought re-appointment to the Golf Commission. The entire Commission thanked him for his service to the Town.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerstman at 8:45 PM, seconded by Mr. Steidlmayer to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Plumeau
Golf Course Commission Clerk