

**Golf Commission Meeting
July 26, 2010
Minutes**

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

Members Absent: Bruce Gerstman

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

Review and approval of the Minutes:

Review and approval of the Minutes of June 28, 2010...A motion made by Mr. Steidlmayer seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the minutes as is. Motion carried unanimously.
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Audience Participation:

- Mr. Tom Hylan of the Tashua Knolls Men's Club requested a date for the 2011 season for the New England Public Links tournament. The tournament changes course every year with the last event held at Tashua approximately 15 years ago.

Mr. Steidlmayer made a motion; seconded by Mr. Furkiotis to approve the Tashua Knolls Men's Club request for a NEPL Tournament to be held on Sunday July 17 and Monday, July 18 th , 2011 with greens fees waived. Motion carried unanimously.

- Mrs. Kristine Miklus of the Donald Miklus Foundation informed the Commission that Elite Electrical Contractors owned by Mr. Phil Riordan was chosen by the Miklus Building Committee to perform the work on the Indoor Training Center. Mrs. Miklus was pleased to announce that construction began today with construction of Phase 1 lasting approximately two weeks.

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)
- Eleven part-time greensman (Hoepfner, Markaj, Kearney, Goodwin, DeFrancisco, Ebert, Oleyar, Valuzzo, Main, Quinn, Plumeau)

- Ten Summer Seasonal (Bird, Bronsky, Fischer, Doyle, Tyboroski, Kish, Alex & Will Testani, Fairfield, Reich)

Maintenance Department Outline:

- It has been a rough year weather-wise. The hot weather should moderate toward the middle of August. Once it does, fall renovation work can begin.
- The greens are in good shape overall. A few week spots are continuing TO BE over seeded and top dressed to get them back in shape. The Glen greens are in very good condition. The Glen greens and Knolls #2 and #3 greens were solid tined. Mr. Steidlmayer asked if it was practice to roll the area after it was tined. Mr. Nagashima reported that generally that is the case, but it is not necessary and was not done in this case.
- The fairways are holding up well. There was another hydraulic leak on a fairway mower that had a previous hydraulic leak. Steps were taken immediately to lessen the damage of the leak. Mr. Nagashima was questioned about the age of the unit and the preventative maintenance practices. The unit in question is the oldest in our fleet but is not scheduled for replacement for a few years. Preventative maintenance is continually done on all our equipment, but this particular unit will be gone over from top to bottom for any potential problems.
- Twenty more irrigation heads have been changed to the more energy efficient units.
- All the bunkers have been edged and swept for rocks. The temporary summer help will continue to work on them.

Maintenance Department Follow Up:

- All of the stumps have been ground down following the severe summer storm. The affected areas have been top soiled and seeded as well.
- The ponds are scheduled to be treated next week.
- All of the 2011 fiscal year equipment purchases are in the works.
- The paving is going well. Knolls #11 and #16 and the widening of #1 are complete. The Glen #1 and #9 have been repaired. The speed bump has been installed. Only the repair of #7 and #8 on the Glen and a turnaround on the practice green remains. We will also repair a 20 foot section on #8 Glen that is crumbling.
- The culvert behind #2 Fairway will be cleaned out. During severe rainstorms there was standing water on #2 fairway. The surrounding area and drains will be cleared to help alleviate the problem.
- Mr. Johnson asked about a depression on #7. Mr. Nagashima reported that he is aware of it and the area will be worked on once the weather cools.
- Mr. Dray asked Mr. Nagashima to look at the right side of #13.

Green Committee (Owen Evans):

- Mr. Evans informed the Commission that the Greens Committee has looked at the newly widened area by the side of #1 Knolls. They have decided to add

some bushes, plants, and mulch in order to deter people from driving their carts on the area. It is also a difficult area to grow grass because of the extreme shade and the plan should dress the area up nicely.

Head Professional Report (Jon Janik):

Tournaments:

- June 28 – U.S. Kids; 54 participants
- June 28 – Trumbull High Marching Band; 39 participants
- July 12 – Trumbull Republican Town Committee – 70 participants
- July 19 – Connecticut PGA Junior Tour – 134 participants
 - Mr. Espach reported on a side note that he had watched a show on TV where a PGA Professional from Burning Tree was reported on their junior golf programs and stated that they had 100 juniors. He was pleased to report that Tashua has nearly 500 junior golfers.
 - Mr. Janik personally thanked Mr. Nagashima and the entire maintenance staff on their efforts at the July 19th CT PGA event.

Pro Shop:

- Pro shop sales are steady. New apparel has been arriving for both men and women.

Instructional Programs:

- Adult Programs:
 - Adult clinics participation has been strong
 - A new Couples Golf School is scheduled for August 22.
- Junior Programs:
 - Summer Camp participation has been excellent with all sessions at or near capacity.
 - Junior Golf Club events were hosted in July 8, 15, and 22. Participation is equal to last year.
 - Participation in June afternoon and weekend programs were down slightly but are at normal levels for July.

General Manager Report (Bobby Brown):

Golf Operations:

- June 2010 rounds: 9283 (Knolls – 6356; Glen 2927) vs. Knolls 5645 and Glen 2398 in 2009.
- July has seen a slight decrease in rounds in July due to the extremely hot weather.

- A damage report has been issued to FEMA from the July 24th storm. Mr. Brown personally thanked Mr. Dan Nelson and Police Chief Kiley for their suggestion to pursue the matter.
- The Weekend special after 3:30 PM has been well received. It is estimated that play has grown 15 – 20% due to the special.
- It has been requested that the Tashua Knolls Men’s Club change their event deadline practices to coincide with the 10-day rack. The matter will be discussed at their next meeting.
- Golfnow.com has booked six full price foursomes at Tashua to date.

Plant & Facility:

- Work must begin immediately on the golf cart bid. The present lease is up in October and we cannot run the risk of being without carts. All Commissioners are invited to “test drive” the EZ Go carts presently at the course.
- Mr. Domenick Faustini was asked again to remove restaurant property from the Miklus Indoor Training Center. Mr. Faustini has requested a shed be placed behind the center. The matter was discussed by the Commission and it was decided that Mr. Dray and Mr. Steidlmayer work with Mr. Faustini to determine a suitable solution and present it to the Commission at the August meeting.

House Committee (Tony Johnson):

- The plan for renovations to the maintenance barn is waiting for Town Engineer, Mr. Ray Lupkus.
- The solar light at the foot of Tashua Knolls Lane is still not working properly.
- The matter of the sign at the foot of Tashua Lane is still in process.

Finance

- Revenue 09/10 - \$1,998,000; Revenue 08/09 - \$1,946,000; Up \$52,000
- Expenses 09/10 - \$1,830,000; Expenses 08/09 - \$1,880,000; Down \$50,000
- Rounds Knolls, 42,355, Glen 18,850 – The most rounds in the past five years
- Expense savings in 09/10 resulted from renegotiation of bond interest, full time salary reduction, overtime reduction, and GM bonus savings.
- Mr. Espach reported that we had a fabulous year which should result in a significant boost to retained earnings to approximately \$400,000. He does feel that a comfortable level of retained earnings is \$500,000. He also warned that that were several one time accounting gains and that bond payments would be increasing

Correspondence:

- None

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- None

Mr. Dray made a motion at 8:30 PM, seconded by Mr. Steidlmayer, to move into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to exit Executive session was made by Mr. Dray at 8:40 PM and seconded by Mr. Furkiots. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Galla at 8:42 PM, seconded by Mr. Steidlmayer to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Plumeau
Golf Course Commission Clerk