

**Golf Course Commission Meeting
August 22, 2022
Minutes**

Members Present: Joe Gaudiano (Acting Chairman); Shelly Dowling; Owen Evans; Dave Galla; Nate Moyer; Diane Wheeler

Also Attending: Bobby Brown, Director of Golf Operations, Andy Fries, Director Golf Course Properties

Members Absent: Tom Cerulli; Tony Ciccaglione

Mr. Gaudiano called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Review and Approval of Prior Minutes:

Review and approval of the Minutes of July 25, 2022 . . . A Motion was made by Mrs. Dowling, seconded by Mrs. Wheeler, to approve the minutes as is. Motion carried unanimously (6 – 0)

Mr. Gaudiano began the meeting by thanking Mr. Espach for his two stints of service on the Golf Course Commission. The first beginning in 2008 and the second beginning in 2018. Most recently, he served for 4-1/2 years; first as Finance Chairman and for the past three years as Chairman. He led us through the COVID pandemic into the recent financially successful past two years. The entire Commission joined in thanking Mr. Espach.

Election of Officers:

Mr. Moyer moved to nominate Joe Gaudiano as Chairman of the Golf Course Commission for the remainder 2022, seconded by Mrs. Dowling. There being no further nominations, the clerk cast one unanimous ballot for Joe Gaudiano.

Mr. Evans moved to nominate Shelly Dowling as Vice-Chairman of the Golf Course Commission for the remainder of 2022. Mrs. Dowling responded that she had not thought of serving as Vice-Chairman and felt she did not have the time to dedicate to the position.

Mrs. Dowling moved to nominate Nate Moyer as Vice-Chairman of the Golf Course Commission for the remainder of 2022; seconded by Mr. Gaudiano. There being no further nominations, the clerk cast one 5 – 1 (Abstain: Evans) ballot for Nate Moyer.

Audience Participation:

- None

Director Golf Course Properties/Green Committee (Andy Fries, Shelly Dowling):

- See report attached

- Mr. Fries added that both courses are doing as well as can be expected during the exceptionally dry, hot weather. As soon as the weather breaks, both courses will be reseeded.
- Due to the unusual amount of irrigation on the course, there has been a higher amount of broken heads. There have also been several large pieces of equipment breaking down. This has resulted in a larger than normal expenditure in the maintenance GL at the start of the fiscal year.
- The fall will bring more attention to wood lines and vegetation including the left of #10 Knolls.
- Mr. Fries, Mr. Brown and the Green Committee will be meeting with Mr. Robert McNeil, golf course architect, next week.
- Mrs. Plumeau thanked the Ladies 18-holers for their recent donation of 18 native plants from their Invitational.

Director of Golf Operations (Bobby Brown):

- See report attached
- Mr. Brown updated the Commission on several instances of vandalism on the course. As a result, security measures around the complex will be stepped up considerably.
- Mrs. Dowling informed the Commission of two occurrences to her as she was leaving the complex in the evening when it was dark. Both times, the Ranger on duty personally made certain that Mrs. Dowling was safely in her car. The ranger in the latest incident was Mr. Richard Catanese.
- Mrs. Plumeau also gave kudos to the pro shop staff and the starters/rangers for their help and dedication in tracking down customers and paperwork on several recent occasions.

House Committee (Nate Moyer):

- See report attached

Concessionaire (Domenick Faustini):

- No report given
- Mr. Gaudio reported that a meeting was held on August 19th between Mr. Faustini, himself, Mr. Ciccaglione, and Mrs. Marie Scott, president of the ladies 19-holers. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss survey results of the recent Ladies Invitational which pointed to reoccurring problems with the food served at their events. The meeting was productive with Mr. Faustini committing to a stepped up partnership between himself, the Commission and the various clubs.

Finance (Dave Galla):

- See attached report
- In addition planning will begin in September for the next fiscal year's budget.

Personnel (Diane Wheeler):

- Mr. Fries 6-month review will be coming up in September. Mrs. Wheeler asked all Commissioners to forward any comments to her. She will be meeting with Mr. Gaudio to discuss the process.

Correspondence

- None

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- The Commission gave its consent to move the time of the September 26th meeting to 7:00 PM.
- The Employee Appreciation event is scheduled for November 30th at the clubhouse from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM.
- Mrs. Plumeau reported on the progress of Tashua’s Environmental Initiative. A new tab on the website has been created to list the numerous efforts. We have been working with the Town’s Sustainable Team and Conservation Commission to keep them apprised of our efforts. There is currently a tank set up in the clubhouse where at least a dozen caterpillars are in the process of emerging into Monarch butterflies.

Executive Session:

Mrs. Wheeler made a motion seconded by Mr. Moyer at 8:10 PM to move into Executive Session to discuss a legal and a contractual matter. Mr. Brown, Mr. Fries and Mrs. Plumeau were asked to attend the Session Motion carried unanimously (6 – 0).

A motion to exit Executive Session was made by Mrs. Dowling at 8:25 PM and seconded by Mrs. Wheeler. Motion carried unanimously (6 – 0).

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Moyer at 8:27 PM; seconded by Mrs. Wheeler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously (8– 0).

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Plumeau
Golf Course Commission Clerk

**Golf Course Commission
Green Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2022**

Members Present: Shelly Dowling (Green Committee Chair), Owen Evans, Andy Fries

Mrs. Dowling called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Topics Discussed:

- Dry and Hot and Very Busy sums up the summer at the golf course. The focus of the Maintenance Department has been to play defense to keep the grass in a good a shape as possible under difficult conditions. It does appear that the weather may be changing and cooling a bit which will help the conditions improve and the grass to come back.
- If the cooling trend continues, seeding will resume over the next couple of weeks.
- The irrigation system continues to show its age and has demanded constant attention during the heat waves. There are now four employees who can work on the system to make repairs.
- The Glen is scheduled for aeration in September and the Knolls in October.
- Cutting back vegetation and weeds will ramp up in the fall as well.
- Mr. Evans asked that the divot boxes be returned to several holes on the Knolls as several customers have been asking for them.
- Mr. Evans also asked that the fescue on the right side of #5 be cut back as well. Will look into previous history for allowing the area to grow in to prevent customers from looking for balls in neighboring yard and to allow for more areas to grow in for wildlife habitats.
- July Weather Report: July rainfall was minimal with only 2 measurable rains equaling .6"approximately 3" less than average. Temperatures were slightly warmer than average including 7 days above 90 degrees in a row late in the month. This led to no rainouts of play and continued stress on the turf.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Plumeau
Administrative Assistant



Director of Golf Report

August 22, 2022

- Operation: *Rounds and revenue for July were strong.
 *Driving machine was vandalized on Friday evening preventing customer from receiving golf balls. We are selling them from the pro shop. The replacement part is due on Tuesday, August 23rd.
 *New range mats have been installed at the range.
 *Driving range teeing area and landscaped has suffered from lack of water and plans have been made to resurrect.
- Outings *August 15th First Selectman's 124 players
 *August 22nd Radzwillas Outing 108 players
 *August 29th Southern CT Women - 90 players are booked with a double tee start beginning at 8am. Golf Course will open to public at 12:20pm
 *High School golf started on Monday, August 16th. Trumbull has 13 players and St. Joe's has 16.
- Programs *All summer camps have concluded for the 2022 season. We had 17 sessions this Year
 *Junior golf programming will continue into October.
- Staff: ATK staff has dwindled with 7 members leaving for college. I have hired 5 replacements for the fall.

**TASHUA KNOLLS GOLF COMMISSION
SPECIAL PROJECTS/HOUSE COMMITTEE
Commission Meeting Monday, August 22nd, 2022**

Topics For discussion

- 0 Painting of clubhouse to be moved to Capital project for FY 2023/2024.
- 0 Lighting 85% complete. Need two lights in bathrooms in Cart Barn and Occ Sensors installed August 30th . Finalize ceiling tiles in Bar Area.
- 0 Plan to go for three bids for new paving in the area from the Cart Barn to Club house. Develop scope. Fall
- 0 Review areas for New carpet in club house. Expect install in January.
- 0 Main water pipe from the Meter to the Maintenance Barn has an underground leak. Funds set. Working with Town Hall.
- 0 Custom Drain spouts to be delivered/completed by August 27th to complete roof project.
- 0 Parking lot painting of the lines and curbs for targeted for September or spring 2023.
- 0 Upgrades required for both Mens/Women bathrooms. Get bids during September. Exact work TBD. Working with Gralor.

Respectfully submitted:

Anthony Ciccaglione – Head of House Committee



Tashua Knolls Golf Course
Finance and Budget
August 2022

Income

1. Number of total rounds up Year over year on the Glenn, flat on the Knolls. Overall, rounds are up 5.7% with a 16.75% increase in rounds played on the Glenn.
2. Cart Rounds increased 13% year over year in the same period
3. Total income is up 11%
 - a. 7.5% Knolls
 - b. 18% Glen

Rounds	2021	5-yr. Avg.	2022
Knolls Rounds	7,334	6,686	7,397
Glen Rounds	3,223	3,176	3,762
Total Rounds	10,557	9,861	11,159
Cart Rounds	7,563	7,068	8,556

Income	2021	5-yr. Avg.	2022
Knolls Income	\$ 322,403.00	\$ 278,240.80	\$ 346,429.00
Glen Income	\$ 81,926.00	\$ 77,615.88	\$ 96,723.00
Total Income	\$ 400,428.00	\$ 360,972.30	\$ 445,088.00

The 5 year average is impacted by COVID-19 course closure in 2020

Expenses

The last fiscal year expenses has no changes of note.

Miscellaneous Finance

The Purchase Orders for the current fiscal year were just opened, no items of significance have been processed to date.