

**Golf Commission Meeting
August 23, 2021
Minutes**

Members Present: Don Espach (Chairman); Joe Gaudiano (Vice-Chairman); Tony Ciccaglione; Tom Cerulli; Angelo Cordone; Shelly Dowling; Owen Evans; Frank Squicciarro (arrived 7:05 PM); Diane Wheeler

Also Attending: Bobby Brown, Director of Golf; Paul Lupo, Assistant Golf Course Superintendent; James Nugent, Town Attorney

Members Absent: none

Mr. Espach called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Review and Approval of Prior Minutes:

Review and approval of the Minutes of August 23, 2021 . . . A Motion was made by Mrs. Dowling, seconded by Mrs. Wheeler to approve the minutes as is. Motion carried unanimously (9 – 0).

Audience Participation:

- None

Assistant Golf Course Superintendent (Paul Lupo):

Mr. Lupo reported that things are beginning to wind down for the season. The seasonal staff has been reduced and is keeping up with the set up for the fall tournaments and daily play. Fall is late in arriving but the summer heat has broken. The staff is gearing up for leaf removal. Aeration on the Glen is taking place this week. Knolls aeration is scheduled for October 18 and 19. The staff has also continued to work on the brush cleanout.

Green Committee (Shelly Dowling):

- Nothing out of the ordinary to report. September is booked with numerous large tournaments. Maintaining conditions on the course for the increased play.
- Irrigation and equipment problems continue to exist. Difficulty in finding replacement parts. Many parts on backorder
- Full time Greenskeeper posted and is open for two weeks.
- Mechanic still out on workers' compensation for at least four additional weeks.
- There has been an increased use of fungicide this year due to the wet conditions.
- There has been some crabgrass breakthrough on some tees. Want to be careful in treatment as we don't want to kill too much grass during the time of increased play.

Director of Golf Operations (Bobby Brown):

- August play remained strong with three tournaments and several club events. September saw five tournaments, club events and several smaller group events. There are two remaining tournaments to be held in October.
- September saw the final annual tournament for Mary's Fund which was held by Bill Sherlach in memory of his wife Mary who died at Sandy Hook. We have been honored to hold the tournament for many years and we appreciate Bill choosing Tashua for the event. We are also proud to be a

small part of the important work being accomplished by the Fairfield County Community Foundation.

- Starting tee times will move to 7:30 AM on weekends and 8:00 AM on weekdays.
- Mr. Brown also wanted to remind all players that pro shop credits for 2021 MUST be redeemed by December 15th, 2021. Also the pro shop is currently holding a 50% off sale to clear out most of the inventory. Rain checks for 2021 must also be used by the closing date of the 2021 season.

House Committee (Tony Ciccaglione):

- Front and rear entrance upgrades are approved and will be starting
- Drainage and paving bid is under review
- The removal of the roof and gutter over the front entrance will be addressed before winter.
- Lightning protection system is ordered and installation is being scheduled
- The UI will be contacted for LED replacement lighting for clubhouse
- Mr. Faustini will be replacing the fencing around the trash dumpsters

Concessionaire (Domenick Faustini):

- No report given.

Finance (Joe Gaudiano):

- Income and play for August were comparable to last year and over the 5-year average. Although Glen play was up over the 5-year average, it was down from last year.
- The Town has determined that an architectural service is necessary to re-design the roof over the restaurant portion of the clubhouse to replace the current badly deteriorated roof with one that is better designed and more conducive to handling the water and snow. Fortunately, an amount was budgeted for the final GPS payment of the previous golf cart contract that will not be used as the payment was incorporated into the new cart contract.

A motion was made by Mr. Cordone, seconded by Mrs. Wheeler to transfer \$18,200 from GL Account #21100000522204, Services Contractual, to GL Account #21100000581888, Capital, for architectural services for the clubhouse roof. Motion carried unanimously (9 – 0).

- Mr. Squicciarro has been named to the 5-year Planning Committee where he will assist Mr. Gaudiano.

Correspondence:

- Mrs. Plumeau and Mrs. Dowling submitted the results of an annual survey sent out by the Ladies 18-holders after their yearly Invitational Event. The feedback from 36 attendees was very positive for the golf course itself and the golf staff. However, most respondents felt the food was “sub par”, “dry” “not palatable” and “took way too long to serve.”
- Mr. Cordone added that the feedback from the recent Sr. Men’s Tri-club event was about half of their attendees were not satisfied with the food.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Mr. Gaudiano made the following motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Gaudiano; seconded by Mr. Evans to not renew the contract entitled “Agreement for Golf Course Property Director at Tashua Knolls Golf Course”, between Douglas R. Snyder and the Town of Trumbull which expires on December 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously (9 – 0).

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Evans at 7:30 PM; seconded by Mrs. Wheeler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously (9 – 0).

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Plumeau
Golf Course Commission Clerk