

GOLF COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2011
7:30 pm
EUNICE POSTOL RECREATION CENTER
75 MILL PLAIN ROAD
FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT

Members Present: Craig Curley, Fred Joseph, Jack Slane, Andrew Janis, Tammi Peterson, Susan O'Donnell, Jordan Lustig

Others Present: Gerry Lombardo, Jim Alexander, Peter Grace, Ralph Butera, Richard Ross, Kevin Baker, Ronnie Wayne, Arnold Maney, Members of the Public

Chairman Craig Curley called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

I. Approve Minutes-February 14, 2011

Jack Slane made an amendment to correct the spelling of Kieran McAlinden's name; add the word "permit" after 2004 in the third line on page three; and remove "Ronnie Wayne, Fairfield Seniors Golf Association," in section VII. Fred Joseph seconded the amendment which carried unanimously. The main motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

II. Communications 1. Sr. Block Tee Times—Par 3

Mr. Curley told the Commission about a letter that was in the packet from the Senior Center's Golf Chairman and Senior Center Director regarding the Commission granting the Senior Center players a block of 7 tee times for Wednesday mornings beginning at 8 am (7 am summer schedule) at Par 3.

III. Staff Reports:

1. Pro Manager Report-Jim Alexander said the course is ready to open. He met with staff and all equipment is ready to go.

2. Administration Report-Gerry Lombardo said the golf budget will be heard on March 16, 2011 at the joint BOS/BOF budget hearing. Mr. Lombardo said that the renovation of the clubhouse is coming along nicely. It is expected to open this Thursday. He said Peter Grace got everything out of the men's locker room which is being turned into an office and storage area. Mr. Lombardo reviewed the Income and Play Comparison reports for H. Smith Richardson and Par 3 for the month of February.

3. Superintendent's Report- Mr. Grace updated the Commission on work around the building. He said all the cement is cracked around the clubhouse. A new catch basin was put in behind the back entrance to the restaurant so water will now run into the woods instead of near 18. Mr. Grace's goal is to open the greens this Thursday. If there is heavy rain on Wednesday, then the course will open on Saturday. A lot of work still needs to be done before the opening. Drew Janis asked about the stump on seven. Mr. Grace said that area may have to be quarantined off. Mr. Alexander said the opening of the course will be on the website.

IV. Greens Committee Report-Drew Janis asked if there would be cart path only. Mr. Alexander answered affirmatively.

V. New Business

1. Memorial to Carl Dickman

Mr. Curley read an email from First Selectman Ken Flatto asking the Commission for input on naming something fitting at a golf course facility for the late Carl Dickman. The Board of Selectmen will then vote on this name. Mr. Slane noted that Mr. Dickman had been instrumental in acquiring and opening H.S. Richardson and likes the idea of naming Par 3 after him. Susan O'Donnell agreed with Mr. Slane's sentiments. Mr. Lombardo suggested naming something at S. Richardson after Mr. Dickman. Mr. Curley opened up the discussion to the public. Kevin Baker likes naming Par 3 after Mr. Dickman. Arnold Maney and Ralph Butera prefers naming the driving range after Mr. Dickman. Ms. O'Donnell had concerns with people still referring to Par 3 as Par 3 instead of Carl Dickman Par 3. Mr. Slane said the Commission should recommend either Par 3 or the driving range to the BOS. Mr. Curley agreed saying that the clubhouse cannot be renamed. He will go back to the BOS with the Commission's input.

2. Review of Golf Course Policies

Mr. Slane gave the Commission a handout on wording he came up with for the course alcohol policy. Mr. Curley said it's important to run the course consistently with this policy by allowing alcohol on the course in a controlled manner and with the concessionaire permit as defined by the State Liquor Commission. Mr. Curley would like to have this new policy in place in time for the opening of the restaurant and new golf season. Mr. Slane read the new policy he drafted. Mr. Lombardo said he had meetings with the Assistant Town Attorney and Risk Manager who said that the Commission is better off having a policy that requires golfers to buy alcohol from the concessionaire. Mr. Lombardo read polices on alcohol use from golf courses such as Fairchild Wheeler, Tashua Knolls and Sterling Farms. Mr. Curley said the liability falls on the concessionaire and not on the Town. Jordan Lustig said he believes the Town has a liability and doesn't like having alcohol on the course. Ms. O'Donnell suggested using cups to put the alcohol in. She also questioned whether or not there should be a beverage cart on the course. Mr. Alexander suggested that a beverage cart not be allowed this year. He also cautioned the banning of coolers on the course and suggested the policy state that no outside coolers are allowed.

Mr. Slane made a motion to amend the policy to read as follows: "No alcoholic beverages are permitted anywhere on the courses except for those purchased from the H. Smith Richardson course concessionaire in accordance with the regulations of the Connecticut Liquor Control Commission. Beverage carts are not permitted except with permission from the Golf Pro or the Golf Commission. Alcoholic beverages must be served in a cup. Coolers will be subject to search. Any violation of this rule will result in the immediate removal from the course without refund and the possible suspension of future playing privileges as determined by the Golf Commission." Mr. Joseph seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Mr. Slane made an amendment to substitute the word "will" for the word "may". Mr. Janis seconded the amendment which carried 6-1-0, Mr. Lustig against. The main motion, as amended, carried 6-1-0 also.

VI. Old Business-None

VII. Public Input

Dave Farrington, Chairman of the Senior Citizen's Group at Par 3, said the 6th hole and 7th tee are muddy and there is a mud hole in front of the 8th tee. Mr. Grace said he will look into these issues.

Mr. Drew made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 pm. Mr. Slane seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer S. Carpenter
Recording Secretary