

Town of Fairfield, Connecticut
Golf Commission
Monday, August 13, 2012
7:30 pm
Eunice Postol Parks and Recreation Center
75 Mill Plain Road, Fairfield, CT

Members Present: Craig Curley; Ryan Morris; Lou Albrecht; Jordan Lustig and Drew Janis

Members Absent: Jack Slane: and Tammi Peterson

Others Present: Gerald Lombardo; Jim Alexander and Peter Grace

Chairman Craig Curley called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

I. Act on Minutes: July, 9, 2012

Motion: Drew Janis made a motion, seconded by Jordan Lustig to approve the minutes as written.

The motion was approved unanimously 5-0-0.

II- Communications

The Chairman asked that the following communications be addressed during other portions of the meeting:

1. e-mail from Mike Herrington re: Senior Tournament fees. – see Old Business
2. e-mail from an out of Town player re: Maintaining Bridge on 13th Hole- see Superintendent's Report

III. Staff Reports

1. Pro Manager Report - Jim Alexander reported that July numbers are down in some part to the fact that there were 1 or two less weekend dates and it was rather hot. The Make-A-Wish and Shebeen tournament numbers were reportedly down as well. There have been a few tournaments added that will hopefully increase revenues. Mr. Alexander will bring new Tournament Guidelines to one of the next meetings for discussion with the hope of saving the Town money asking the groups to be responsible for the cart rental payment regardless if all the pairings show so that the Town does not have to be responsible when extra carts are rented and then not used.

2. Administration Report – Mr. Lombardo reported that he had prepared a Draft of a 10-year Fiscal Report (see attached). End of Year Expenses were not yet complete and unemployment costs were preliminary and he expects those to be as much as or higher than previous years. He then shared a Profit/Loss Report for the Golf Carts and Driving Range. The Commission reviewed and discussed both reports. Chairman Curley remarked that this is the second year that CJD Par 3 course is in the red. He believes they need to look closely at rates when the time comes though they don't want to out-price themselves in a market that is becoming more competitive. Mr. Morris agreed that they must keep their non-resident rates competitive so as not to lose that revenue. There was a discussion about the Driving Range which is in a severe decline. Mr. Alexander believes that HSR is the least expensive range in the area. There is a fine line between staying open for business and paying staff. Advertising was discussed as well as Fall Specials. Mr. Alexander stated that he would bring ideas to the next meeting. Mr. Lombardo let the Commission and audience know that the Software upgrade would take place on Monday, Sept. 10 and while he hoped for a smooth transition, he would not be surprised by some glitches and asked for patience.

3. Superintendent Report – Peter Grace reported that the front 9 holes had been aerated today, August 13 and the back 9 holes would be done tomorrow. He added that Zach is finishing drainage on 2nd hole

after which he will move to do the bunkers on 9 and 11. He will finish 10 after all the year's tournaments are complete. In October they will work on the 2nd tee. He will discuss with Mr. Janis the delay on the 9th tee as he believes the 2nd tee is more important. They will be working on the cart paths and the gardens as time permits. Members remarked that the rough is high. There was discussion about the bridge on the 13th hole and the 7th hole. Mr. Grace agreed that there will be one put on 7 and possibly one on 13 for the ladies. Ron Wayne sent information about material that can be used; sort of a netting type of material that was used at Tashua. Mr. Grace noted that the first approach on the 1st hole will be re-sodded. He added that the stones off to the right of the cart path of the 9th hole will be addressed. When asked about the ice machine, Mr. Grace let the Commission know that a new one had not been purchased because they were "pricey" and a location in his building could not be found. Mr. Lombardo stated that there would be ice in the coolers going forward.

IV. Greens Committee Report – Mr. Janis asked if there would be stairs on the 10th hole at the front of the tee. Mr. Grace answered affirmatively. A discussion took place regarding an "adopt a hole" type of program to keep the course in shape. The Men's Club representative, Ralph, Butera was wary of getting involved due to Union concerns. Mr. Lombardo stated that this was no longer an issue and it would not be looked at as an intrusion. Mr. Butera invited Mr. Janis to come to the next Men's Club meeting on Sept 5 to discuss the idea.

V. New Business - None

VI. Old Business –

1. Caddy Rule- A version of the registration form, approved by Risk Management was distributed to the members (see attached). Mr. Lustig inquired about developing established guidelines for the caddies, re: dress and cart etiquette, etc. Other members felt that since it is with the consent of the Pro, and usually with a parent, that the Pro will assure these standards are being met prior to letting a caddy onto the course. They agreed if caddying increases they can revisit the issue.

2. Senior Interclub Tournament Fees- Chairman Curley reported that Mike Harrington asked for reimbursement of \$395.00 for the Senior Men's Club due to their inter-club guests being charged Adult resident rates rather than Senior resident rates. The members felt that his was likely a misunderstanding due to the minutes not being specific enough though most felt that their intention was to charge them the resident rate as they do with other groups. Most agreed that they have allowed one tournament event per year at something lower than the Adult resident rate.

Motion: Jordan Lustig made a motion, seconded by Lou Albrecht to approve the reimbursement of \$395.00 to the Senior Men's Golf Assn.

The motion was approved unanimously 5-0-0.

VII. Public Input –

1. Nancy Leguere of the Par 3 Ladies Club thanked Mr. Lombardo for making sure that the air hose was repaired.
2. Ralph Butera asked about the two pond aerators that were purchased by the Men's Club years ago. They are not being used. Mr. Grace replied that the Conservation Dept. won't allow them in the pond.
3. Angelo DeLeon – 131 Vesper St.- Mr. DeLeon complained about the warm water in the coolers. Mr. Lombardo assured the audience and members that there would be cold water in the coolers. He also asked why there are no Senior rates on the weekends. He was told by Chairman Curley that rates will be discussed in the Fall but that weekends are prime playing time and it's important for the course to realize as much revenue as it can on the weekends adding and that if they allowed senior rates it would take a tee time away from a regular rate

paying customer. Mr. DeLeon also reported that he believes some employees at the Range are giving away balls. Mr. Alexander asked that if he sees this again to call him immediately or come straight to the clubhouse.

Mr. Morris made a motion, seconded by Mr. Janis to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan C. Ryan

Recording Secretary