

**Town of Fairfield, Connecticut**  
**Golf Commission**  
**Monday, April 8, 2013**  
**7:30 pm**  
**Eunice Postol Parks and Recreation Center**  
**75 Mill Plain Road, Fairfield, CT**

**Members Present:** Craig Curley, Chairman; Lou Albrecht; Tammi Peterson; Jordan Lustig; Ryan Morris and Jack Slane

**Members Absent:** Drew Janis

**Others Present:** Gerry Lombardo, Jim Alexander

Chairman Craig Curley called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

**I. Act on Minutes:** March 11, 2013

*Motion: J. Slane made a motion, seconded by Ryan Morris to approve the minutes as written. The motion was approved unanimously.*

**II. Communications** – Chairman Curley asked to discuss requests 2 & 3 together and then to take up request 1. All agreed.

**2. Fairfield Univ. Reunion Tee Time Request-** A letter was sent by Maria Bolis of the 1973 Reunion Ctte. asking for a block of perhaps 8 tee times on Friday, June 7 beginning at 12:30 and that thee guests be charged only the Tournament rate.

**3. Roger Ludlowe HS Reunion Ctte Tee Time Request** – The class of 1986 Reunion Ctte. requested a block of tee time between 11 and 12:30 on Sat. July 13 at the regular rates depending on whether they are residents or non-resident.

Mr. Andy Paules of the Men’s Club remarked that he believed this was the date of the Member-Member Tournament. Mr. Lustig commented that he was afraid that permitting these requests would start a precedent. Mr. Alexander stated that while he has had many similar requests, he has always denied weekend block requests. Chairman Curley commented that he understands not granting discounted rounds but would like to be able to accommodate people who have ties to Fairfield. Mr. Morris and Mr. Slane were concerned that this was the beginning of a “slippery slope” and wondered how many more class reunions would then be making similar requests.

*Motion: L. Albrecht made a motion to allow Roger Ludlowe HS block times for up to 20 people on July 13. There was no second.*

*Motion: J. Slane made a motion, seconded by Ryan Morris to allow up to 8 block tee times for Fairfield University Class of ’73 on Friday, June 7 starting at 12:30pm with the understanding that the will pay full rate and have all reservation in by 10 days prior in order to release the unused tee times.*

*The motion was approved 4-1-1. Tammi Peterson opposed and Jordan Lustig abstained.*

Chairman Curley stated that he will reach out to RLHS and suggest a Friday date if possible.

**1. Andy Paules- Course Cleanup** –Andy Paules, an employee for the HSR Course but also a member of the Men’s Club was present to discuss a letter sent (see attached). Chairman Curley read the letter for the benefit of the audience. Some questions discussed were whether volunteer cleanup help on the course would result in complaints from the Union. Others wondered if it was a liability to the Town to have people working on the grounds. Mr. Ron Wayne asked exactly where the natural rough begins and would volunteers understand that. Mr. Morris stated that Longshore’s Men’s Club does this cleanup each year before the course opens. Ms. Albrecht remarked that even if we didn’t do it each year, this year’s hurricane presented extenuating circumstances. While members were not opposed to

the concept there was discussion as to when such an event could or should take place. Members were not in favor of closing the course when revenue would be sacrificed. Mr. Lombardo liked the idea but felt it should have taken place prior to course opening. He also felt that the staff could take care of it between now and the end of April. Mr. Alexander agreed with the letter and was happy to give it a try. Some suggestions were to do it twice, one in early morning and one in early evening in order to have the least impact on the course. Mr. Lombardo stated that he'd get in touch with HR regarding the Union issue as well as the safety issue.

***Motion:** J. Slane made a motion, seconded by L. Albrecht to approve the Volunteer Cleanup Day(s) subject to approval by the Risk Management Dept. and organized under the auspices of the Pro and the Superintendent.*

*The motion was approved unanimously.*

### **III. Staff Reports**

**1. Pro Manager Report** - Jim Alexander reported that both course opened on March 16 but weather has been very cold and wet. Passes are behind but the Driving Range is actually ahead of last year due to the fact that it was closed at this time last year. He is working on outings with some outside groups. The Fire Dept. is doing a CPR and AED training for the staff at the end of April. The Tee Time issue that some people have experienced is not yet fixed. He is working on it with GEN. Ron Wayne presented the Sr. Golf Assn. schedule.

**2. Administration Report** – Mr. Lombardo reported that He is through the Budget Process and due to the fact that he didn't ask for any capital, there were no major cuts in his budget. He met with the RTM and explained that any cuts would result in a revenue reduction. He toured the course earlier in the day with Mr. Grace and they made a list of priorities, some that Mr. Grace will highlight.

**3. Superintendent Report** – Mr. Peter Grace presented his report on the work taking place at the course (see attached). He mentioned that the temperatures have been much lower than the previous year's March.

Tee on 5 will be done this week after sod is delivered.

Tees on 8, 12 and 13 are complete and should be ready for play in mid-May.

Fairways were aerated.

Staff continues to cleanup sticks and debris.

Bridge on 7 will be completed this week.

Fairways will be worked on in the following order 1, 5, 9 and 10.

His schedule is as follows: Mowing fairways -M, W, F

Tees -T, TH, F

Approaches and Aprons -M, W, F

Greens - Tues-Sunday

Greens rolled -M, W, TH

Divots on tees and fairways - T, TH

Still work to be done on 13 including Bridge and tee.

Zak is gone for a short time but will be back to do bunkers on 9 as well as replace sand in the bunkers on 4 to make them consistent with the rest of the new bunkers. Peter is also working on fence repair around the Maintenance Building. Andy Paules remarked that there seems to be plastic rising out of the Rt. fairway bunker on 4. Mr. Morris inquired about the Quick Connect irrigation system work and Mr. Grace said that it was not done during the winter. Ron Wayne asked about the Tee Markers that are tilting and asked if new yardage will be addressed. Mr. Grace said that Tee Boxes on 12 and 15 will be new and that 8, 9, 13 and 15 all need to be moved. They have not addressed the change in yardage.

**IV. Greens Committee Report** – Mr. Janis was not present to make a report.

**V. New Business** – None

**VI. Old Business** – **1. Cart Rate Increase Vote-** Mr. Lombardo explained that a contract for a new fleet of golf carts had been signed and they would be arriving at the end of the month. Last month the members had agreed that they might like to raise the rate by \$1 but Mr. Alexander was going to see whether or not the system would allow one rate for adults and one for seniors. He stated today that it would. Mr. Lombardo stated that the Town is looking for revenue wherever it can get it. Mr. Curley felt that it was a timely increase with a new fleet.

*Motion: J. Slane made a motion, seconded by L. Albrecht to raise golf carts by \$1 (after taxes) \$16 for 18 holes and \$12 for 9 holes, across the board and effective when the new fleet of carts arrives.*

*Motion: J. Lustig made an amendment to that motion to make it applicable to only 18 holes.*

*There was no second.*

*Vote: The original motion was approved 5-1. (J. Lustig opposed) Motion passed.*

**2. Course Management Update-** Mr. Lombardo reported that he had a kickoff meeting prior to this meeting and the three members will be visiting a few courses that have undergone this type of management change and they will come back to the Commission with their findings. They understand that there have been both successes and failures and they want to do a thorough investigation and see if this is right for the Town. Andy Paules asked if it does come to the point where they are ready to make a report that they hold the meeting in a large venue as he believes there will be hundreds of interested people who'll want to hear about it.

**VII. Public Input** – . Barbara Saltman and Sheila Muscott; Co-Presidents of the Women's Par 3 Group asked for an update on the Par 3 Building at the Tennis Center. They mentioned that people are not rejoining the League because of the lack of a building. Mr. Lombardo explained that the building will not be available to them this year. Picnic Tables, Bulletin Boards and restroom facilities were discussed. Mr. Lombardo stated that Fairfield Indoor Tennis knows to allow the golf patrons inside to use the restrooms.

*Ryan Morris made a motion, seconded by Tammie Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 pm.*

*The motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Joan C. Ryan  
Recording Secretary