

## Harwich Golf Committee Meeting

January 19, 2016

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM

Present: Clem Smith, Tom Johnson, Bob Kingsbury, Martha Duffy, John Crook (Phone)

Absent: Jeff Williams

Invited Guest: Shawn Fernandez Supt. of the Green and Chris Clark, Town Administrator of Harwich

### Announcements:

1. John Wheeler will be voted and approved by the selectman tonight to replace John Moretti on the committee.
2. There will be no February meeting.
3. The Hot Stove has been named as the new food and beverage provider

### Consent Agenda:

***Motion to Approve December 15<sup>th</sup> minutes by Tom Johnson. Bob Kingsbury mentions there was a dollar figure typo in the minutes and with that being said/ fixed he seconds the approval of the minutes.***

Vote 4-0

### School Grounds Initiative - Chris Clark:

The Town Administrator is working with Mr. Fernandez to provide a plan that would assist the Monomoy school district. This could provide lawn maintenance services in house at substantial saving to the district. It would provide additional overtime compensation for the CVGC maintenance crew that is involved.

Mr. Clark will be researching other alternatives to the use of the CVGC resource at Mr. Smith's request

Martha Duffy inquires about the desire to have overtime available to his crew.

Mr. Clark adds that they have also added a stipend for Mr. Fernandez for doing the administrative part of this.

Mr. Kingsbury asks what would happen if there comes a point that the seasonal employees don't want to do this? Mr. Fernandez says that if that were to happen with the money allotted he would be able to hire someone or 2 seasonal people to do it.

Mr. Smith asks Mr. Crook) if he has any comments. Mr. Crook states that he has always been against this proposal because

1. The primary focus should be the Golf Course and maintaining the course.
2. From a business perspective the question is who cuts the other fields in town and Whitehouse field? It makes more sense to have the Highway department, who probably cuts these other fields, to cut the school field also. Mr. Clark says that can be explored but one of the benefits of having Cranberry do it is that they are right there so there would be not transporting equipment and they have all the necessary equipment to do it also. Highway Department does do some of the other fields and their counter parts in Chatham has the DPW do some of their school fields so Monomoy does have an arrangement with Chatham to do some of their fields. Mr. Fernandez response is that Town Highway is overstretched with their work load.

Mr. Smith asks Mr. Clark what is the timetable for this to commence. Mr. Clark says that if the proposal can be sent over by the end of this week he would like to see this wrapped up by the end of February if we are going to pursue this or not. If we are not going to pursue it then he would need time to find another vendor.

Mr. Clark adds that the town of Chatham and Harwich did explore for us to operate their course and run the pro shop in Chatham as an inter-municipal agreement. The Chatham leadership decided that they would rather go out to bid on it than share in the benefits from it.

Mr. Crook asks about implications for labor allocation and equipment use.

Mr. Kingsbury has financial concerns related to the current budget and billing procedures.

Martha Duffy asks for more definition of the role of the committee. Mr. Clark indicates he would like the endorsement of the committee for a trial run at this program

Mr. Johnson says the committee needs to make sure that the course if taken care of properly and this is our first concern. Mr. Clark is looking for a census as to what the committee is feeling and wants to make sure he is informing everyone of what he is thinking and that transparency is really the way to go Mr. Kingsbury adds that the committee doesn't have a say really about it but Mr. Clark is coming to them asking their opinion and the topic is going in the right direction of priority.

Mr. Kingsbury adds that nobody is questioning Mr. Fernandez's ability to do an exceptional job here but he personally agrees with what John Crook has said in the past that we are in the golf business not the Lawn mowing business and he thinks this is something that should be put out to private contractors or the Highway Department that does similar facilities for the town. Mr. Fernandez says that he writes all the

programs for the town and the lawn care. Mr. Kingsbury says that the portion Mr. Fernandez would get is very minimal in the big picture.

***Mr. Johnson makes a motion that we consider voting on a tentative approval to keep this project moving until the point where it actually needs the support of the AMA vote. Mr. Kingsbury seconds this vote. Vote 5-0***

Mr. Clark leaves the meeting

### **Old Business:**

#### **Winter Plan Update - Shawn Fernandez**

- Drainage work on 10<sup>th</sup> fairway, cart path on 12 is done. Just need to grade out the tee and wait for the weather to change to sod the Tee. Time wise he is exactly where he wanted to be at this point
- Tree work continues on 13, 16, 17 & 18. As soon as the weather changes they will be in to finish contract work
- Put down snow mold, Verdi-drained the greens, fertilized them and top dressed them
- The 10<sup>th</sup> tee used to be about 1000 sq. feet and now will be about 3000 sq. ft.
- Filled in around 11 or 12 sink holes on the course

#### **Food Service and RFP proposal**

The lease was signed by Ron Leidner and Gabe Leidner from the Hot Stove.

#### **Directors Report - Shawn Fernandez in absence of Roman Greer**

- Already taking advanced tee times
- New merchandise will be coming in soon
- Tee Sheet is all set for next year

Mr. Smith adds that Roman and staff are currently working on a new web site. They just met with the Web contractor this morning. Very excited about the new look that will be coming out.

### **New Business:**

#### **Golf Improvement Fund Update - Tom Johnson**

The Town Accountant emailed Mr. Johnson an audit of the fund to date. With monies being collected as a surcharge on daily green fees we are another step closer to being able to fund our portion of a bond when required to finance the Cart Barn/Car Park renovation.

#### Policy Manual Updates

Mr. Johnson suggest since there will be no meeting in February a few of them should sit down and look at the policy book Everyone on the committee should make notes and come up with suggestions and come back in March for a first reading of any changes.

#### Spring Opening Schedule - Shawn Fernandez

Usually around the middle of March Mother Nature starts to turn around and we can start to turn things around from winter. By the first week in May everything will be looking the way it usually does and the new cart paths will be usable.

#### Public Comment

***Martha Duffy Motion to adjourn, Mr. Kingsbury seconds. Vote 5-0 5:30 PM***

Respectfully submitted,

Jenn Heath, Sec., HGC