

Harwich Golf Committee
June 21, 2022
Town Hall Small Conference Room

Meeting called to order at 4:00PM

Present: Clem Smith, Jack Connolly, John Crook, Martha Duffy, Carol Fuller, and Paul White

Absent: Steve Bilotta

Invited Guest: Roman Greer (Director of Golf)

Public:

Motion made by Mr. White to approve the workshop minutes with a correction to the Vision Statement by replacing the word dedicated with committed. Seconded by Mr. Connolly.

Unanimous vote (6-0)

Motion made by Mr. White to approve the May minutes. Seconded by Ms. Duffy. Unanimous vote (6-0)

Director's Report:

- In lieu of a Director's Report, Mr. Greer gave praise to his staff for having the course in great shape and the hard work in managing the tee sheet and running leagues and tournaments.

New Business:

- Mr. Greer discussed the report Mark Mungeam sent after his visit to Cranberry Valley
 - Mr. Mungeam gave recommendations for tee boxes and placement along with new yardages. He also recommended swapping the tee red and green tee colors.
 - Ms. Fuller thinks the proposed yardage distance for the women is not significant enough. She was hoping for 5100-5200 yards instead of 5374.
 - Ms. Duffy says the 200-yard proposed change will make a positive difference when the course gets re-rated.
- The next step will be for the rating team at Mass Golf to come out and re-rate the tee markers.
- Mr. Greer will be scheduling a USGA Agronomy visit.

Old Business:

- The Committee discussed long and short-term priorities.
 - First discussion was the portable restrooms vs. permanent structures.
 - There is now crushed stone around the restrooms to help with tracking in dirt/mud.
 - The Committee wants to look into how permanent restroom structures have been paid for in the Town.
 - Mr. Greer stated the Finance Committee has said that golf pays for golf due to the various funds that are set aside from greens fees, cart fees, etc. (golf improvement fund and golf infrastructure fund).
 - The dedicated funds were put in place so golf would not compete with other Town departments for CPC funds.
 - Mr. Connolly mentioned that bathrooms are not golf specific and are used/benefit all visitors.
 - Second discussion was about cart path renovations.
 - Hole 10 is on the schedule for FY24
 - Mr. Greer plans to meet with the newly hired Finance Director to discuss the plans for an irrigation upgrade debt schedule.
 - Bunker renovation was delayed by Covid and the loss of the Town Engineer who was in charge of RFPs
 - Plan is to work with the Town to get a RFP awarded and have bunker work start in October
 - Discussion of the remaining elements of the Cart Barn Project.
 - Updated security cameras and a gate were discussed. A remaining \$20,000 budget may not allow for both.
 - A security company has been recommended to come in and give a quote for cameras for the cart barn as well as upgrading the clubhouse and maintenance buildings.
 - The ladies associations would like to have a representative help in the selection of women's clothing for the pro shop
 - The Committee asked about a solution to be able to tee up a ball in the current mats used at the driving range. A tee does not sink far into the mat making it hard to hit a driver.
 - Mr. Greer said he is happy with the effort being put forward by Jake's at Cranberry Valley. Staffing issues are a concern just like all restaurants.
 - Mr. Greer also mentioned that he recommended the restaurant give groups a fair price and not allow groups to negotiate the price down where the quality of product then suffers.
 - Ms. Duffy asked that the hours of operation be clearly posted so people know when the restaurant closes and can make appropriate plans.

- Mr. Connolly, Mr. Crook and Mr. Bilotta will work with Mr. Greer on the scope of a RFP for the short course and putting complex.
 - Mr. Greer said the USGA Headquarters has a 7500 ft. putting complex and short course designed to draw people into the game.
- Discussion of CV's Audubon initiative
 - Mr. Bilotta spoke with CV Superintendent Shawn Fernandez to get information on where CV stands with completing it's Audubon qualifications and wrote a report to the Committee.
 - 17 courses out of 400+ in Massachusetts are Audubon Certified. All but three are private.
 - Ms. Fuller and Ms. Duffy agree that we should continue to work towards certification, but not make it a priority over other work that needs to be done.
- Discussion of clubhouse improvements.
 - Mr. Smith discussed the future of replacing decking with Aztec or similar product.
 - Installing a backup generator would be helpful, but the possibility of the banking solar power for backup.
 - Split AC/heating units is planned for FY 24 for the clubhouse.
 - Pro shop improvements for FY 22 was a hat display that is built, but waiting for an affordable shipping option.
 - The driving range can now be upgraded through the revolving fund. Range balls are critically low and there is a shortage of supply across the industry.
 - The driving range can now be upgraded through the revolving fund. Range balls are critically low and there is a shortage of supply across the industry.
 - Mr. Greer also mentioned the need to possibly revise the driving range pass token allotment. Moving away from tokens to a key or number pad would resolve the sharing of tokens and/or use of other items that are found in the machines to dispense golf balls.
- Ms. Fuller requested updates to the website where old information may still exist.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Duffy. Seconded by Mr. White. Motioned approved (6-0). Meeting adjourned at 5:42 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Serijan, HGC Secretary