

Tuesday August 19, 2014

Meeting called to order at 4:00pm

Present: Clem Smith, Tom Johnson, Jeff Williams, John Moretti, Martha Duffy, Bob Kingsbury.

Absent: John Crook

Invited Guest: Dennis Hoye

Director of Golf Report:

*Audubon first step is completed and we have received a certificate that will be displayed in the club house

*USGA Turf report came in.

*MGA Public Links championship event was great. The course was in excellent conditions and the greens speed was great. The publicity received from the tournament was amazing. Golf destinations filmed a lot of the final event and will be shown on NESN. MGA gave a plaque that is now displayed in the clubhouse.

*The current cleaning company that we have has been put on notice to do a better job in the bathrooms. A different cleaning company was hired to do a one time deep cleaning and in the fall this company will probably be hired on a regular basis. Also Dennis said he spoke with the town Maintenance manager and he said this project to redo the bathrooms could be started in the fall.

*the course has been extremely busy and the boys high school team will be starting soon, the girls have already started.

*the lightning detection system is now up and running. We are looking into trying to turn the speakers a little toward the high school for their events in case of lightning they will be able to hear it go off.

*next week fairways will be aerated and the greens will be solid tined. The core aeration will be after Columbus Day.

*Shawn Fernandez and Dennis met about replacing the grass tee on the driving range and the sink hole work on 16.

*Teddy Bruschi Foundation has asked to do a tournament at the course on October 10th.

Tom Johnson asks Dennis Hoyer if anyone has ever considered offering the high school students some kind of community service credits for doing things at the golf course? Dennis said they used to offer something like this. In fact the last person they had do this was Andy Walkly who has turned into a very good Golf Professional.

Old business:

*MGA Championship - Clem Smith said the MGA did a great job with doing everything that was needed to be done for the tournament. They did the tee boxes, all the scoring and had a professional photographer taking pictures.

John Moretti makes a motion to have the MGA letter put in Dennis Hoyer and Shawn Fernandez employee file. Bob Kingsbury would like to amend the motion to have the letter out in all of the employee files. Tom Johnson second and Vote 6-0.

***Capital Outlay & Priorities Review**

Received the beta packet from Capital Outlay

Tom Johnson motions to table this discussion until the September meeting so the packet can be looked over and the USGA report may alter some things on this list and for the fact that it is coming up on budget time. Martha Duffy second, Vote 6-0

Membership Alternatives - Jeff Williams

*A senior membership is currently being looked into. About 15 hours have been out into gathering birthday information from the Harwich voter registration book. Next year there will be a spot added to the membership application form. It is understood that we may ask for this information but people do not have to provide it. However having this information is the only way this option can be considered. In the time spent gathering this we only have about 35% of peoples birth dates.

Tom Johnson feels as though Angelo should be brought in on this discussion since we are a committee and not a commission, the committee may not even have the authority to offer this as an option.

Bob Kingsbury wonders if this is something that should wait until next season and not waste man hours on it if the information will be provided at the next renewal period.

John Moretti wonders if the intent on offering this is to provide financial relief to people if age is what should be looked at. There are several people in Harwich that may qualify for a senior rate but do have the means to lay a regular fee whereas there are families in town with multiple children that would like to play and learn golf that do not have the means to do so.

CVWGA concerns:

*Clem Smith asks Martha Duffy to be a liaison for the ladies league and asks John Moretti to do so for the men's league. Sori Belz said the ladies are pleased with what has been done to address their concerns and look forward to the changes that will be made during the off season.

New Business:

*Clem Smith provides a worksheet outline of the USGA report.

USGA Critique - Worksheet

- overall very good course conditions
-
- Greens - the importance of sand top dressing - and the application of dry sand
-
- Trees - No. 17 green tree removal to continue - benefits are huge - tree removal to continue relative to 12 and 13 - removal of trees on the right side of No. 3
-
- extensive work around the No. 13 tee complex
-
- Fairways - deeper roots require less water
-
- Perennial Ryegrass conversion
-
- Continued tree removal program in stages - encouragement of promoting Savannah like environment could produce savings in maintenance costs
-
- Maintenance Facility - additional space needed and the necessity to keep away from the pond area with a new wash down area
-
- No. 12 cart path relocation
-
- Sinkholes - 50 areas of concern - gradual attention to selected areas that will involve long range planning

Chelsea System concerns:

*Dennis Hoyer informs the group that about 1 ½ yrs ago the members at large asked if the Chelsea system could calculate points from about Memorial Day to Labor Day so that is the way it has been working. Now there are members that want the points to be calculated year round and not be turned off.

George Boule feels if the system is meant to be a fair system to everyone then it should calculate points all the time. It's not right for people to play every day of the week when some members can't play until the weekend and they can't because the people who have played all week are on the same priority as they are. This doesn't seem fair or they proper use for the system.

Bob Kingsbury makes a motion to not deactivate they system as of September 1st for this year and to come up with specifics parameters to be put in place for the beginning if next season that is fair and addresses this issues and the walk on issues.

Martha Duffy seconds. John Moretti informs the group that he will not vote for this motion only due it the fact he does not feel it is right to change something like this during the middle of a season. Vote 5 in favor and 1 abstain.

Bob Plienes says the group that plays the most golf hardly ever play on the weekends. This group also makes up more of the membership and feels by turning the points on year round would upset the majority of this group.

Joe Sweeney brings up the fact that the group of members who call or go up to the course first thing in the morning to get into non-member tee times they don't get points for doing that even in the middle of the summer. Not only do they not get points they are also taking a non-member time so the course in losing revenue if someone were to call in for a time and it is taken by a member.

Joe Fede clarifies that George Boule is not looking to favor one group over the other he just wants the system to be used the proper way for which it is designed to be.

Clem Smith asks Joe Fede to come up with a recommendation for the next meeting to be considered.

Joe Sweeney said that the agenda said there would be a Chelsea system issue on the agenda not that there would be a vote taken on anything to do with the system. It is not going to go over well with the membership having taken a vote on something that will affect so many people when they didn't have a chance to be here to address their concerns with it.

Bib Kingsbury suggests that a working group be formed with a member of all concerned parties in it to look into this and come up with something that is fair to everyone.

Martha Duffy makes a motion to reconsider the previous motion in regards to the Chelsea system policy change and that there be a working group formed with someone from the committee, the men's league, the women's league and the rest of the membership that can look into this and come up with a recommendation for the next meeting. Bob Kingsbury seconds - Vote 5 for with 1 abstain.

Future Energy needs:

Clem Smith would like someone to take the lead on finding new energy sources for the next 5 years for the course. Discussion to be continued at the next meeting.

Discussion:

Bob Kingsbury is concerned about having a tournament the Friday of Columbus Day weekend. Dennis Hoyer says the only reason this date was suggested was to the the Aeration schedule and the dates they could accommodate this Tournament that would bring a lot of good publicity to the course.

Correspondence:

A letter was received from a member stating displeasure with the course being closed for a weekend in June for 2 hotel/motel groups to play. Dennis Hoyer said the only weekend in June that the course was closed for was the Jimmy McPhee tournament which the course makes the most money off of and then the next day was the member guest tournament. The course did not close for any group like this. Some hotels do book blocks off time and pay in advance but this is one way that the course keeps membership fees low and there are always equal member time and non-member times even on days these groups play-just like the days the ladies league plays and the men's league.

Clem Smith motion to adjourn 6:00 pm, John Moretti second Vote 5-0