

Harwich Golf Committee

November 9, 2021

Meeting called to order at 4:00PM

Present: Clem Smith, Steve Bilotta, John Crook, Martha Duffy, Carol Fuller, and Paul White

Absent: Jack Connolly

Invited Guest: Roman Greer (Director of Golf)

Public: Jason Laramee

Motion made by Ms. Duffy to approve the September and October minutes. Seconded by Mr. Crook. Unanimous vote (6-0)

Director's Report:

- Town Administrator will present FY23 budget schedule and recommendation of restaurant lease to Board of Selectmen at their next meeting.
- The golf course was closed on October 27th due to the Nor'easter. Operations resumed on the 28th with limited power.
 - Mr. Smith mentioned the need for the course to have backup generator so not to lose business when power is down.
- Driving range nets were shredded in the storm.
 - The funds put aside to sod the driving range will be used to replace the netting instead.
- Seasonal maintenance staff's last day was 10/31 so cleanup from storm will take some time to clean up.
- GPS heat tests and mapping will happen the week before Thanksgiving.
- Revenue for September was strong vs. 2020 despite 7 less playable days due to weather.
- The 2022 Tournament Schedule was highlighted.
 - The Harwich Fire, Harwich Police and Salute Military Golf Association all return.
 - CV will host the PGA Drive, Chip and Putt sectional qualifier for the fourth consecutive year.
 - Mass Golf will hold a qualifier for the Massachusetts Mid-Amateur Championship.
 - The Harwich Chamber of Commerce and Monomoy Athletic Boosters are on the schedule.
 - Mr. Laramee representing the Monomoy Athletic Boosters said the group is happy to be back at CV and is hoping to lock in the same date from year to year.

- He also asked for the Golf Committee to consider an additional discount on the greens fees charged as the money raised goes to helping fund the Athletic Department.
- Motion made by Ms. Duffy to approve the tournament schedule as proposed by Mr. Greer. Seconded by Mr. White. Vote unanimous (6-0).

Old Business:

- Ms. Fuller gave some opinions on how to shorten the overall distance of the Red Tees by moving tee markers forward and, on a couple of par 3s, move the tees to another forward location with a hope of shortening the distance by approximately 300 yards.
 - Mr. Greer plans to reach out to Mark Mungeam before Mass Golf comes to re-measure the yardages from all tee locations next summer to get his expert opinion on how best to lay out all markers.
 - The data loggers used approximately five years ago showed the Red Tees were too long for most of the women golfers, thus the Green Tees were created which shortened the yardage by 500+ yards.
- Mr. Smith asked if the Committee wanted to pursue a partnership with the Harwich Conservation Trust, based on the presentation by Executive Director Michael Lach a couple of months earlier.
 - Committee would like to have Mr. Smith gather more information.
- Mr. Bilotta referenced the State of California now requires municipal golf courses have walking trail access for those who don't golf.
- Mr. Greer mentioned there are three warrant articles pertaining to golf that will need to be prepared for Town Meeting:
 - Allow driving range revenue (Bob Miller rent and purchase of buckets) be allowed to be put back into the range via the Revolving Fund
 - Feasibility study for a short course and putting complex
 - Purchase of a new heavy-duty maintenance truck
- The skinning of the maintenance buildings was discussed. This would be the final project to complete the "Cart Barn Project".
 - Mr. Smith would like to find a way to upgrade the building, especially where the course chemicals are stored.
- Mr. Greer mentioned he plans to have new signage for the cart return path where you enter by the 14th tee box and travel behind the cart barn.
 - Path area is environmentally sensitive so it cannot be paved and trees cannot be pruned.
- Ms. Fuller commented on the women's merchandise in the Pro Shop. She feels there hasn't been a good selection the last couple of years and wondered if some representatives from the Women's Association should be consulted.

- Mr. Greer mentioned the difficulty in receiving merchandise due to supply chain issues and said the sales reps for different companies help with their expertise in supplying us what they believe sells.
- Mr. Smith discussed the date for the December meeting and clarified there Committee will not meet January – March.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Crook. Seconded by Mr. Bilotta. Unanimous vote 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Serijan, HGC Secretary