

Harwich Golf Committee

December 14, 2021

Meeting called to order at 4:00PM

Present: Clem Smith, Steve Bilotta, Jack Connolly, Martha Duffy, and Paul White; John Crook (via Zoom) and Carol Fuller (via Zoom)

Absent:

Invited Guest: Shawn Fernandez (Golf Superintendent)

Public:

Motion made by Mr. White to approve the November minutes. Seconded by Ms. Duffy. Unanimous vote (5-0)

**Director's Report:**

- 60 New electric carts have been delivered and are being assembled on property (roofs, GPS, etc.). The chargers will be installed by the Golf Staff.
- Stump grinder has been at the course for two weeks and approximately 75-100 stumps will be removed when done.
- Cost of purchasing stump grinder (\$19000 for Golf Department share) is already showing benefit of purchase as current stump work would have cost \$12,000+
- Greens were verti-drained for the winter.
- 2022 rates and fees were approved by the Board of Selectmen.
- Operations staff currently building tee sheets, updating website, working with Chelsea and GolfNow to get ready for 2022 season.
- The FY23 budget has been submitted at level funding per the direction of the Town Administrator.
  - The Director of Golf submitted a letter with the submission stating the needs of the golf course.
  - Mr. Bilotta expressed concern over loss of usage and revenue if there is not an increase in budget to continue or better the level of service at the course.
  - Each Committee member expressed concern over keeping a level-funded budget and expressed a willingness to

**New Business:**

- Committee elections were held.
  - Motion by Mr. White to have Clem Smith continue to serve as Chair and Martha Duffy continue to serve as Vice Chair. Seconded by Mr. Connolly. Unanimous vote in favor (7-0).

## **Old Business:**

- Mr. Smith had a discussion with Sean Libby discussing the back deck of the Clubhouse.
  - Mr. Libby felt the integrity of the deck was in good shape
  - Any all-weather related curtains for the deck could be discussed with the next vendor
  - Mr. Smith mentioned the next deck should be a composite deck
  - Work will be done to fix the railings of the handicap ramp at the entrance to the Clubhouse.
- RFP for the restaurant vendor opening has not gone out as of yet.
  - Mr. Bilotta would like the RFP to be posted in many outlets and for longer than a week to be able to solicit multiple bids.
- Mr. Libby estimated a cost of \$150,000.00 or so for a permanent outdoor bathroom structure.
- Mr. Smith discussed the future possibility of using the solar energy created by the panels to heat and cool the Clubhouse and maintenance buildings. CV is the last Town property to use oil heat.
- Mr. Fernandez mentioned the latest fleet of mowers that were leased are hybrid (diesel and electric).
  - Hybrid units have less oil changes, no hydraulic leaks and less emissions.
- Committee discussed Board of Selectman's decision to transfer land abutting golf course to the Conservation Trust.
- Mr. Fernandez gave an update on winter projects at the course
  - A shelter is being built on the side of the starter shed to house the push carts.
  - Tree work is being done every day
  - All equipment gets broken down and greased, cleaned, etc.
  - Irrigation check to make sure irrigation is running properly.
  - Greens will be closed for the winter (verti-drained, top dressed and spray with snow mold).
  - Still working on solution to get power for an automatic gate. Mr. Fernandez is working on pricing out the solution a couple of different ways.
  - Also need money and a way to get power out to ponds on 10 & 11 to move fountains and increase oxygen levels in water.
  - Mr. Fernandez is waiting on a third quote for replacing the ripped driving range nets. First two quotes came in at \$17,000 and \$37,000.
  - Mr. Fernandez is also looking to get procurement for bunker work in the Spring or Fall.
- Skinning of the maintenance buildings was discussed.

- Ms. Fuller questioned the inclusion of a nursery/putting complex on the long-term capital plan that was presented to the Board of Selectmen.
  - Mr. Bilotta and Ms. Fuller felt the long-term plans should be discussed by the Committee before being included in a reports to the Board of Selecman.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. White. Seconded by Mr. Bilotta. Unanimous vote 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:46 PM

Respectfully submitted,

*Mike Serijan, #GC Secretary*