

Harwich Golf Committee

June 17, 2020 Virtual Meeting

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM

Present: Clem Smith, Steve Bilotta, Jack Connolly, John Crook, Martha Duffy, John Wheeler

Absent:

Invited Guest: Roman Greer

Public:

Mr. Greer gives his Director's Report:

- Recognized the work of the golf staff, Town Administrator, Health Director and Finance Director for their work in getting the golf course up and running.
- The first event at CV will be the Mass. Junior Amateur August 3-6
- There will be no PGA Jr. League at CV this Summer as the full experience kids got in past years would not be possible with the restricted tee times and pressure on the tee sheet.
- Asked for an endorsement of Junior Range nights (Tuesday and Thursday after 4pm)
 - Mr. Bilotta and Mr. Duffy mentioned the current wait times at the range and did not want to impact the range members and guests who haven't had the opportunity to use the range this season. Would like to wait until social distancing restrictions are lifted.
 - Mr. Greer mentioned working with Bob Miller to offer the juniors the lesson side of the driving range.
 - Motion by Mr. Wheeler to support junior range night. Seconded by Ms. Duffy. Vote unanimous (6-0).
- The full opening of First Tee program has been postponed until next Summer. The program will be available to the Monomoy program this Fall and next Spring.
- Mr. Greer asked for the Committee's endorsement of reduced rent for Bob Miller and the Hot Stove. He mentioned a precedent last year for the Hot Stove after the losses from the tornado.
 - Mr. Crook mentioned a pro-rated discount for the number of months the two vendors have been unable to operate
 - Motion by Mr. Crook to give Mr. Greer the flexibility to negotiate with the vendors to come to a solution. Seconded by Ms. Duffy. Vote 5-1.
- Mr. Greer gave a breakdown of 2019 vs. 2020 memberships
 - ♣At 95% of the total memberships in 2020 vs. 2019
- There has been a lot of member frustration about being placed on overflow
 - CV has gone from years of 8-minute tee times to 15 then 12.

- More people not working or working remotely has seen more people vying for times.

- Mr. Wheeler mentioned he heard the employees were being verbally abused about the lack of tee times.

- Mr. Greer acknowledged the tee time frustration and has tried to help by having employees direct member frustration to him. He does not feel there has been any abuse warranting a code of conduct violation

Old Business:

- Mr. Greer discussed the Winter and Spring work that was done at the course
- Greens have been aerated and there was a lot of tree work done
- Scope of work for hardscape is ready to go to bid
- Old gas tank has been moved to its new permanent place near maintenance

New Business:

- Mr. Greer recognized the Town Administrator's use of the gate person, extra rangers, etc. in creating a safe environment for the golfers

- The gate person, extra rangers and outside POS attendant are all paid through the CARES Act.

- Mr. Greer mentioned the delay in a signed agreement with GolfNow has to do the Town Lawyers not accepting GolfNow's contract.

- Mr. Wheeler mention discrepancy in the Town Charter mentioning the Golf Committee is a policy making entity and he says the Committee cannot make policy.

- Mr. Bilotta would like the Committee to have a bigger role in the day-to-day operations and provide transparency to the membership and taxpayers.

- Provide a report of all Director of Golf's recommendations, how the Committee voted, Town Administrator approval and vote by the Board of Selectmen.

- Would like a "Crisis" management plan whereby the Director of Golf can have the authority to make decisions without prior approval.

- By the liaison not showing up at any Golf Committee meetings, the Committee feels the Board of Selectmen/Town needs to show some acknowledgment of their ideas and efforts.

- Mr. Crook says the Committee should be looking at the big picture in terms of raising the bar at CV.

Meeting adjourned at 5:58 PM due to timing out of Zoom meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Serijan, HGC Secretary

