

Golf Advisory Board
7:00 PM Monday, June 4, 2018
Spicer House
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:58.

II. Roll Call

Present Margaret Hirsch, Cindy Lathrop, Patrice Granatosky (Council Representative), Ken Wetmore, Dave Bower, Gary Welles (RTM Representative) Todd Goodhue, Eric Morrison and Mark Berry

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes: April 2, 2018

Motion to approve the minutes by Cindy, seconded by Ken

IV. Citizens Petitions and Comments

Mayor Granatosky read an email from Michael Boucher on behalf of Jeff Larson to the board. Both the Mayor and I explained that additional coverage for these types of accidents through the Town's insurance was not available. It was mentioned that the insurance company had offered to cover this claim and this claim only. The feeling among the board was that if we did it for one then there would be an expectation for the course to cover all claims. The mayor also brought up the idea of an additional charge to the course fees to cover the cost of claims. The board raised concerns about the potential costs to cover the damage to vehicles and buildings.

It was pointed out that there is an assumed risk when you purchase a home near a golf course. It was also pointed out that in the golf course rules and regulations that had been approved by the Golf Advisory Board, Parks and Recreation Commission and the Town Council it states "All golfers are personally responsible for acts of vandalism, property damage, or personal injury while utilizing the golf facilities. This includes damage to private vehicles struck by a shot. All accidents must be reported to the Pro Shop before leaving the premises."

The board had two suggestions:

Adding signage in the Pro Shop and at a couple of locations in the course, reminding golfers they are to report property damage to the pro shop staff.

Adding language to the score card that addressed the issue of property damage.

V. New Correspondence/Communications

Board Members

Cindy brought up some concerns about how dark the large parking lot is. Eric mentioned that there are some lights on the building and that they are on a timer. When the light are out he will report it to PW and they replace the lights.

Margaret reported that there was a tree along the 11th hole that had a large crack in one of the limbs. She also reported that the Shennecossett would be hosting a Nine and Wine event on the July 13th, further details to follow.

Ken said that someone had questioned the ratings on the blue and white tees. Todd provided the explanation that he had received from the USGA. He mentioned that he did not agree with the explanation that they had provided.

Dave asked about repairs to the area on number 4, he questioned whether putting up ropes would help protect the area. Eric responded that he would like to design repairs that would keep carts away from that area so any type of barrier would not be necessary.

VI. Reports

Golf Course Report

Todd presented the May report. He reported that this May the course had made more money than the previous May despite the fact that we had rain on three different weekend days. There are currently 210 paid members and he was expecting more as some snow birds were returning.

Marketing Report

Mark reported that followers on Facebook had increased from 747 to 778. They had boosted a post that promoted a special "Free Cart with Two Paid Greens" Todd reported that players were coming in with the SCGA special and the ones in Golf Magazine.

VII. Unfinished Business

Mark reported that he had found a comfort station that could be purchased and installed for under \$50,000. A discussion followed about the value of installing such a building and was there other alternatives including utilizing the bathrooms in the golf shop.

VIII. New Business

Custom Service

Todd reported that customer service scores were high based on customer surveys over the last few years. Todd mentioned a few things he and his staff do to try and make customers feel welcome, including greeting customers by first name, introducing singles to other players.

Dave asked if the size of the proshop restricted Todd's ability to meet customer needs. Todd described his shop as more of a convenience golf shop. He can't compete with the larger sporting goods shop, but often uses his connections to get his customers good deals on equipment.

IX. Next Meeting Date: July 9, 2018 - 7:00 PM at Spicer House

X. Adjournment

Cindy made a motion to adjourn at 8:08 seconded by Mayor Granatosky.



Signature

7/9/18

Date