

GOLF COMMISSION
Monday, September 12, 2022, 7:00pm
Fairfield Parks & Recreation Conference Room
75 Mill Plain Road, Fairfield, CT
& Via Conference Call Bridge

A recording of this meeting can be found here: [youtube.com/watch?v=AWGsSQNWSTk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWGsSQNWSTk)

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Keith Varian, Vice Chair Peter Secrist, Michael Feinstein, Mike Harrington, Liam Herron, Priscilla Schulz

MEMBERS ABSENT: Christine Hogan

OTHERS PRESENT: Park and Recreation Director Anthony Calabrese, Golf Course Superintendent Peter Grace, Golf Pro Bob Bigonette

1. **Call to order**

Chair Keith Varian called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Varian led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Act on Minutes: 8/8/22**

Priscilla Schulz made a motion to approve the minutes of 8/8/22 as written. Mike Harrington seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

4. **Staff Reports**

a. **Pro Manager Report**

Golf Pro Bob Bigonette said everything is going really well. The course looks good and the numbers have been good because there hasn't been much rain. H. Smith Richardson has been busy with September outings. The outing today was for the Recovery Network.

b. **Administration Report**

Parks & Rec Director Anthony Calabrese said the August numbers are up because there hasn't been rain. It's a good jumpstart to the season. Mike Harrington commented that the numbers are up, but ID purchases are down for non-residents. Fore-up is structured where residents can register seven days in advance and non-residents can register 6 days in advance. ID's are not needed by residents to play, so it might not be representing accurate numbers. Anthony Calabrese sent out a report regarding the youth programs. The revenue is split 25%/75% between the Town/Bob Bigonette. These are recreational programs and have always been structured that way. There was a discussion as to how the revenue from the programs is credited to the town. Mr. Calabrese said he will add a line to his golf report to track the revenue going forward and will share his quarterly report with the Golf Commission. Items for the upcoming budget process will be for lights at the driving range and two golf

simulators. The 80 golf carts have already been approved.

c. Superintendent Report

The recent rain helped the course immensely. There are some issues with the irrigation system. The course looks good but there is some wear and tear. Aquarian was able to help with the water pressure. Wednesday, 9/21 at 3:45pm, there will be a walk through of the course. Keith Varian will send a calendar invite to the Commission.

5. Greens Committee Report

Priscilla Schulz said the course looks great. There are some tees of concern but the seed on the forward tees is helpful. The water on 13 is great. There was a discussion about a hanging branch on the 9th and if it could be trimmed or if the tree would need come out altogether.

6. Par 3 Committee Report

Michael Feinstein walked the course and said it looked great. Keith Varian said the greens are long and the geese were a problem yesterday (Sunday).

7. To hear and or act upon old business:

a. 50th Anniversary Celebration

Bob Bigonette said not enough people were signed up, so the event was postponed.

b. HSR-Long Term Capital Improvement Plan

These items were already covered in the Administration Report.

8. To hear and or act upon new business:

There is no new business

9. Communications

a. Public Comment and emails

There were no new emails.

10. Public Comment

Brian Daly, 195 Hurd Street

Wondered if the \$500K requested for the Driving Range would include the short game area. He also wanted to share some history that at one time the Town looked into driving range being behind the cart barn but it was rejected as it is wetlands. He also mentioned at one time there were plans to put course holes where the driving range is now and relocate range by the clubhouse.

11. Adjourn

Priscilla Schulz made a motion to adjourn. Mike Harrington seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien
Recording Secretary

