

**GOLF COMMISSION**  
**Monday, October 17, 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:

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Keith Varian, Vice Chair Peter Secrist, Michael Feinstein, Mike Harrington, Liam Herron, Christine Hogan

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Priscilla Schulz

**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: 9/12/22**

Mike Herrington made a motion to approve the minutes of 9/12/22 as written. Liam Herron seconded the motion.

The motion carried 5-0-1 (C. Hogan abstained)

4. **Staff Reports**

a. **Pro Manager Report**

Golf Pro Bob Bigonette said everything is great. The outings are officially over and they were very successful. Most of them are trying to book again for next year. The demand is staying strong. Mr. Bigonette wanted to acknowledge Parks & Recreation Director Anthony Calabrese for the Glow in the Dark event that was sold out and had people waiting to get in.

b. **Administration Report**

Parks & Rec Director Anthony Calabrese said September numbers are tracking in a good direction. The numbers are up and so is revenue but there is a discrepancy between resident and nonresident. Non Residents pay more but usually play less so the revenue is up but not the rounds. Resident numbers are up too. Mr. Calabrese also added a section "other golf revenue" by request of the commission last meeting. It shows the revenue of the Golf programs to date. They only collect money twice a year so there are only two payments. There is also no history to compare it to. Mike Herrington said the driving range is down \$30,000. Mr. Herrington said the mats are terrible and the range is not good. Mr. Calabrese is carrying \$500,000 to update the driving range. He will be going before the boards in January hoping to get it approved so he can start the renovations and have it ready for the opening of the

season. Golf cart revenue is up as well. There was a discussion about season passes and the last time the price was raised. Chair Keith Varian asked for details on season pass revenue and how many rounds pass holders are playing. Mr. Calabrese said the new software can do that. Christine Hogan would like a P & L of the outings. Golf Pro Bob Bigonette said the outings have hybrid pricing because the money is split between the course, Town and restaurant. Pricing for outings and season passes will be compared to other courses.

Anthony Calabrese said the HSR Clubhouse is being honored by the CT Recreation & Parks Association for Facility of the Year. The award will be given during a ceremony at Mohegan Sun Convention Center on Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

c. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Peter Grace said the course is in good shape. The leaves are starting to come down now. He's working on new tees for 7,6,14,11 and 8. There is money in the budget to do the tees. Mr. Grace said he and his crew are doing the best they can. He'd like to trim trees on the cart path. Chair Keith Varian said he should do the tees first and then the cart path.

5. Greens Committee Report

Mike Herrington read an email from Priscilla Schulz who said the course looks fantastic. She also played the Par 3 and said it looks good too but noticed the reeds are out of control. Anthony Calabrese said it might be a "No Mow" zone and he will take Conservation Director Tim Bishop to walk the course.

6. Par 3 Committee Report

Michael Feinstein played the course at Par 3 and said it looked great.

7. To hear and or act upon old business:

No old business to discuss.

8. To hear and or act upon new business:

No new business to discuss.

9. Communications

a. Public Comment and emails

There was an email from Jim Kuczo that was sent out to the commission. Mr. Kuczo is hoping for approval to landscape the rest of the area where his son's memorial bench is located. He would also like to put a sign up for the charity started for his son, Kevin's Afterglow.

Mike Herrington made a motion to approve Mr. Kuczo's request. Peter Secrist seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

10. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Chair Keith Varian said at next month's meeting the commission will discuss rates and the agreement with the previous commission to honor the promise from the Town.

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien  
Recording Secretary