

**GOLF COMMISSION**  
**Monday, September 11, 2023, 7:00 pm**  
**\*\*H. Smith Richardson Clubhouse Conference Room\*\***  
**2425 Morehouse Highway, Fairfield, CT**  
**& Via Conference Call Bridge**

A recording of this meeting can be found here: [Golf Commission Meeting 9/11/2023](#)

**MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Keith Varian, Vice-Chair Peter Secrist, Michael Feinstein, Mike Herrington, Liam Herron, Christine Hogan, Priscilla Schulz

OTHERS PRESENT: Parks & Recreation Director Anthony Calabrese, Golf Professional Robert Bigonette, Golf Course Superintendent Peter Grace, members of the public

1. Call to order

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Varian waived the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a moment of silence for the victims of the attacks of 9/11.

3. Act on minutes of 7/10/23

Priscilla Schulz made a motion to approve the minutes of 7/10/23 as written. Liam Herron seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4. Staff Reports

a. Pro Manager Report

Golf Pro Bob Bigonette said everything is going well. Fall programs are sold out. Mr. Bigonette said the only complaint was that there are no tee times available. There was a discussion about how to get into reservations prior to others and why some were able to make multiple tee times. ForeUp suggests using Chrome and clearing cookies before going into the tee time site. There was a discussion about score cards as well. Mr. Bigonette will give feedback on the new cards after the season ends.

Mr. Bigonette and his staff were awarded Merchandiser of the Year.

b. Administration Report

Parks & Recreation Director Anthony Calabrese said the August numbers were down slightly over last year. He is hoping for a good fall season of golf. Mike Herrington asked for the youth revenue to be included in the monthly report. Mr. Calabrese will discuss the quarterly report at the next meeting. Partnering with Boca for Simulators was rejected by the Board of Finance. Mr. Calabrese will put it on the Capital Plan. Phase II funding will be requested in January. Phase I has already been approved and they are waiting for approval of the covered tees.

c. Superintendent Report

Course Superintendent Peter Grace said the course is in good shape. The crew has been going against the rain. There was a main water break in Easton and which affected the water supply. Everything has been aerated. Trees on the right side of 16 will be worked on in mid-October.

The cart path on 7 will be taken up and new road mix will be put down. Keith Varian would like a list of projects and when they are/will be worked on. Mike Herrington said the course is great, especially with all the bad weather we have been having.

5. Greens Committee Report

Priscilla Schulz said everything looks great.

6. Par 3 Committee Report

Par 3 looks great consistently. Ms. Schulz was impressed with the youth players ahead of her at the Par3. She wanted to mention that they were very respectful.

7. To hear and or act upon old business:

There was no old business to discuss.

8. To hear and or act upon new business

There was no new business to discuss.

Mike Herrington expressed his frustration with the tournaments and anticipation of inclement weather during a tournament. He would like to have the restaurant room open so golfers can have a place to shelter. Right now many tournament golfers will leave and they have already paid for lunch at Boca. There is a tournament scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup> and the weather forecast does not look favorable. Mr. Herrington would like to use the restaurant for golfers to stay out of the rain. Mr. Herrington is not looking for food or beverages prior to lunch being served. Anthony Calabrese suggested Mr. Herrington speak with Boca directly.

9. Communications

- Kelly Renna – FLHS Cross Country Coach

Kelly Renna went over her request to use the driving range area and Hoydens trails for the school's cross country meet on 10/2. The driving range would need to be closed at 2 pm. Conservation agreed to hang signs closing the trails if the Golf Commission would approve Ms. Renna's request. The proposed route was presented to the commission.

Mike Herrington made a motion to approve the FLHS Cross Country meet on 10/2/23 along HSR Driving Range and for the range to be closed to the public at 2:00 pm. Mike Feinstein seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

10. Public Comment

Don DiMartino inquired about the sound system at Boca. Mr. DiMartino also asked about considering expanding the putting green.

Town Buildings Manager James Ryan is getting quotes on the sound system. Course Superintendent Peter Grace said he will look into the putting green situation.

11. Adjourn

Liam Herron made a motion to adjourn. Priscilla Schulz seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pru O'Brien  
Recording Secretary