

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

A recording of this meeting can be found here: [Golf Commission Meeting 12/11/2023 7:00 pm](#)

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Keith Varian, Vice-Chair Peter Secrist, Michael Feinstein, Mike Herrington, Liam Herron, 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.

3. Act on minutes of 11/20/2023

Peter Grace made a motion to amend some items mentioned in his report. Priscilla Schulz seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mike Herrington made a motion to approve the amended minutes of 11/20/23 and to add the approval of 10/16/23 draft minutes. Michael Feinstein seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4. Staff Reports

a. Pro Manager Report

Golf Professional Bob Bigonette asked about new score cards for the 2024 season. Priscilla Schulz worked on mockups of 3 variations of score cards. There was a discussion about the proposed designs for the score cards. Nothing was voted on.

b. Administration Report

Parks & Recreation Director Anthony Calabrese said the November numbers are similar to last year. He wants everyone to pay attention to Non-Residents. Resident numbers are up but they need to keep the Non-Residents. Par 3, Carl Dickman is closed for the season too. Mike Herrington shared an analysis broken down into categories. Mr. Herrington's analysis was reviewed. There was a discussion about raising revenue and marketing new lower Junior Rates and possibly a short game area can be put in by the softball fields.

The sound system vendors went to Boca and the sound is working on the pro's side of the building. Mr. Calabrese asked Building Maintenance to look into painting and installing new carpet.

c. Superintendent Report

Course Superintendent Peter Grace's crew is working hard getting ready for winter repairs. Mr. Grace is also waiting for the Purchase Order for tree work on 16 and hoping to do more tree work. Sunday, December 17 will be the last day for golfing.

5. Greens Committee Report

Priscilla played HSR twice. Saturday was beautiful and she will be playing next Saturday as well. The leaves are gone and Peter's crew is doing a great job!

6. Par 3 Committee Report

Par 3 is closed for the season.

7. To hear and or act upon old business:

a. Rules for Golf Outings

There were 15 confirmed outings this year and there is already interest for May 2024. Charities did very well this year and the rates are going up in the spring. May, June, September and October are the busiest months for outings. Bob Bigonette will keep the Commission informed as to bookings. Chair Keith Varian wanted to give credit to Mr. Bigonette, Boca and Peter Grace's crew for work done on the course. The outing rounds are included in the Non-Resident data.

Keith Varian will circulated language for a "No Bot Policy" based on comments from meeting discussions. This will be on the January 8, 2024 agenda.

8. To hear and or act upon new business

a. Meeting Dates for 2023

Second Monday of the month:

Jan 8	July 8
Feb 12	Aug 12
Mar 11	Sept 9
Apr 8	Oct 21 (Monday 10/14 is Columbus Day)
May 13	Nov 18 (Monday 11/11 is Veteran's Day)
June 10	Dec 9

Priscilla Schulz made a motion to accept the meeting dates for 2024. Mike Herrington seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

b. Election of Officers 2024

Michael Feinstein nominated Peter Secrist as 2024 Chairman of the Golf Commission. Liam Herron seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Michael Feinstein nominated Mike Herrington as 2024 Vice-Chairman of the Golf Commission. Priscilla Schulz seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

2024 Golf Commission Officers

Chairman – Peter Secrist

Vice-Chairman – Mike Herrington

c. Goals for 2024

This Item will be moved to the January 8, 2024 agenda.

9. Communications

a. Public Comment and emails

Bill Homa is Mickey Homa's nephew. Mickey Homa was the original Golf

Professional at HSR Golf Course. Bill Homa donated his uncle Mickey's bucket hat and pin to display in the clubhouse . There was also a discussion about an original pen/ink drawing by Al Culver that was donated to the Golf Commission when Craig Curley was the Chairman. Mr. Homa had hoped it would be displayed in the clubhouse as well.

10. Public Comment

Brian Daly – 195 Hurd Street – was happy about the sound system working properly.

Don DiMartino – 84 Sunset Circle – thanked Chairman Keith Varian for his service to the Golf Commission. Mr. DiMartino also asked if the putting area could be made bigger.

Bob Bigonette and Tom Henderson were recognized by Golf Digest as top golf teachers.

11. Adjourn

Mike Herrington made a motion to adjourn. Priscilla Schulz seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien
Recording Secretary