

GOLF COMMISSION
Monday, January 9, 2023
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: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eURQhhKkhN>

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 Bob Bigonette, Course Superintendent Peter Grace

1. Call to Order

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Keith Varian led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Act on Minutes of 12/12/22

Priscilla Schulz made a motion to approve the minutes of 12/12/22 as written. Mike Herrington seconded the motion which carried 6-0-1 (C. Hogan abstained)

4. Staff Reports

a. Pro Manager Report

Golf Pro Bob Bigonette said there are 11 confirmed outings for the 2023 season, and he has at least two more who have inquired. Things are moving along with the new golf carts as the company has asked for the logo. Mr. Bigonette is hoping to have the carts by April. The old carts will not be taken until the new carts arrive. The Pro Shop did well. The margins are very tight, but they sales were good.

b. Administration Report

Parks & Recreation Director Anthony Calabrese said the December numbers were spot on with the budget. There were 49K rounds played last year. The Residents vs Non-Residents still isn't balanced. He will keep watching the numbers. There was a large drop in the driving range revenue because they need new mats. New mats were ordered that will be installed before the season begins. Mr. Calabrese is meeting with the Administration tomorrow regarding the budget. The February meeting will address the budget.

c. Superintendent Report

Course Superintendent Peter Grace said the 7th forward tee has been smoothed out. Mr. Grace had a tree company come and along with his crew, took down trees. The mats will be ready for the spring opening. The new equipment still has not arrived, but he cleaned is old equipment in the event he will need to se it. The Par 3 needs 200 yards to be counted by the USGA. They are looking into where they can get the extra yards.

5. Greens Committee Report

Nothing new to report.

6. Par 3 Committee Report

Nothing new to report.

7. To hear and or act upon old business:

There is no old business to discuss.

8. To hear and or act upon new business

a. Outside Tournament Regulations

Chair Keith Varian circulated the Tournament Regulations. As discussed earlier, there are 11 confirmed outings and 2 pending. Bob Bigonette said the minimum is 128 participants. Mr. Bigonette will open the course in the morning if the outing has less than 128 participants. The restaurant, Boca Grille, has been pleased with the outings and they offer a variety of packages.

Right now, there are no rules for the Par 3 but Chair Varian would like the website to say that outings can be held at the Par 3. Golf Pro Bob Bigonette will still be the contact point for the outings. There were two at the Par 3 last year. Mr. Bigonette will add the Par 3 to the webpage for the outings so the public will know it is available.

b. Goals for 2023

The commissioners emailed their suggestions for the 2023 Goals to Chair Keith Varian. Some of the suggestions were: better monthly reports and analytics. Liam Herron has some ideas, and he will generate an example for the commission. Other additions to the reports will be a pie chart to feature budget, weather, residents, non-residents. Mr. Herron recommends the reports be more visual. Other improvement suggestions were cart paths, tees, drainage, and trees. Mr. Varian will prioritize what will need to be done in 2023. The list will be sent to the full commission.

9. Communications

a. Public Comment and emails

There was no public comment or emails.

10. Adjourn

Michael Feinstein made a motion to adjourn. Mike Herrington seconded the motion which carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien
Recording Secretary