

August 15, 2019

Town of Westport Golf Advisory Committee Final Minutes

The Golf Advisory Committee of the Town of Westport met in Town Hall, Room 201, on Monday, August 12, 2019. The meeting was called to order by GAC Chairman Jane Dally at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Marie Gross, Jane Dally, Gary Solomon, Jim Harman, John Ehli, Richard Raphael. Members Absent: Judy Domkowski.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 6 meeting were approved—6-0. Judy Domkowski was not present.

Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

President's Reports

Regina Masterson reported on behalf of the LWGA. The organization has had a strong season and they have one remaining "major" tournament (Fall Cup) to be played in September.

The LWGA member-guest was a huge success.

LWGA is working to appoint a new Board for 2020.

Regina mentioned that members are questioning why holes 9 and 14 have not been switched when it was suppose to happen in the spring.

Ann Haymon represented the Longshore Women's 9 Hole League. They have had a great season with 126 members which includes 38 non-residents. The 9-holers also are wondering about switching the two holes.

John Leiber, President of the Longshore Men's League, mentioned that they have close to 400 members. They completed their club championship and have had other well attended events over the summer.

Administrative Report

Jennifer Fava reported that the rounds were up 1.25% in 2019 compared to 2018. We had a total of 5,735 rounds in July. The number is down from last year mainly due to rain and very wet conditions.

New directional signage for holes 9 and 14 is ready to go in the ground. Construction set to begin on the new cart paths, trees and screening in October. Doug Smith will come out to walk the holes again and offer his recommendations.

The MGA re-rated the course from the Men's tees. Women raters from the MGA will be out on September 11 to complete the course rating.

Superintendent's Report

Todd Salamone reported that the course is in good shape in spite of all the recent rain. He will address the brown spots in the fairways but he does blame the heavy cart traffic on certain holes. He will be meeting with the agronomist from BrightView next week. Todd Salamone recommends aeration and verticuting the fairways in the spring and fall. He also will be verticuting the greens which includes a sand inject in the soil. A new sweeper will help with the process and pick up the plugs.

Todd Salamone continues to spray the weeds in the fescue.

Crabgrass is an issue and a second application in mid to late summer is important to have on the schedule.

Todd Salamone will put out more rakes.

Bunkers built in 2017 will get new sand this fall. Bunkers built in 2018 will get new sand in 2020.

A new irrigation system is in our future as the existing system is now obsolete.

Golf Professional's Report

Jon Janik reported that the summer junior golf programs have been a huge hit and all spots were filled.

The Met Junior PGA held an event on August 12 and the Super Seniors (CSGA) held an event in July.

The MGA will rate the course from the Ladies Tees on September 11. Following the rating, new scorecards will be printed.

Hole signs are ready to be put down on holes 9 and 14 and construction is planned to begin in October.

John Janik reported on his analysis of rounds time and found that 75% of rounds in recent weeks were completed in 4 hours/fifteen minutes or less. He feels that overall the golfers are doing a good job of managing their time but we need to keep them on track.

Committee Member Comments

Marie Gross noted the improved cleanliness of the bathrooms at the half-way house. She also mentioned that the bunker liner on the traps on hole 12 are showing and Todd said he would be addressing that issue. Marie Gross also pointed out an issue with the computer at Longshore and had difficulty entering scores. The MGA owns the computer and we need an updated web browser. She mentioned that there is a glitch in the Chelsea booking system that leads players to believe their reservation wasn't accepted when in fact it was. Jon will address this with Chelsea.

The reeds in front of the Ladies tee box on hole #17 need to be trimmed.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting and passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Dally GAC Chairwoman