



WESTPORT CONNECTICUT
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
LONGSHORE CLUB PARK
260 SOUTH COMPO ROAD
WESTPORT, CT 06880

**Golf Advisory Committee
Final Minutes
September 9, 2019**

The Golf Advisory Committee of the Town of Westport met in Town Hall, Room 102, on Monday, September 9, 2019. The meeting was called to order by GAC Chairman Jane Dally at 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: Marie Gross, Jane Dally, Gary Solomon, Jim Harman and Judy Domkowski.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the August 12 meeting were not approved since we didn't have a quorum. GAC member Judy Domkowski was not present at the August 12 meeting and could not cast her vote.

Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

President's Reports

Winnie Hamilton, president of the 18-hole LWGA league reported that all the major tournaments were complete with the exception of the Fall Cup. The summer LobsterFest was another huge success. Winnie also mentioned that on average, the LWGA has 60 players every Tuesday and close to 50 golfers stay for lunch at Pearl's Restaurant.

Mia 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 will hold the Irons & Hybrids event on September 19 and a fund raiser to benefit the Bennett Cancer Center on September 26.

John Leiber, President of the Longshore Men's League was not in attendance so Jon Janik made some remarks about events played in August and the upcoming Minuteman tournament in September.

Administrative Report

Jennifer Fava was not in attendance. Jon Janik brought the monthly golf rounds report which showed a busy August with 6,359 rounds. It was the busiest August since 2015.

The MGA had to cancel the September 11 re-rating of the women's yardage and will reschedule for next month

Superintendent's Report

Todd Salamone reported that the course is in good shape in spite of all the recent rain. He spent time recently with the head agronomist from BrightView.

Todd Salamone and crew have started aeration and verticutting of the fairways thanks to the new sweeper purchased by the town. The sweeper saves time and also collects all the plugs. Todd Salamone feels the fairways should rebound nicely for next spring.

Todd Salamone will begin seeding the fairways immediately.

Green and tee aeration will begin October 8-11.

The reeds along hole 17 will be trimmed.

Bunkers built in 2017 will get new sand this fall. Bunkers built in 2018 will get new sand in 2020. This is part of regular bunker maintenance.

A new irrigation system is the top priority for 2020. The cost of the new system will be close to \$160,000. The plan currently is to replace the central irrigation controls this winter. The construction will not impact the golf course. The unit that runs the sprinklers will be replaced. The units on the golf course that are being replaced are inside of electric boxes. Minimal digging will be necessary.

The Greens have no drainage currently (except #2 and #6). The plan is to hire a company to install drainage on the remaining 16 greens.

Architect Doug Smith and Todd Salamone identified 1 acre of tees (5 holes) to be leveled and re sodded. That project will be paid for with a single appropriation from the town. The plan was to ask the town for \$200k dollars to do the irrigation system and 1 acre of tees.

Todd Salamone plans a walk-through with Doug Smith and contractors on September 20 to review the work that needs to be done on the switching of holes 9 and 14.

Todd Salamone, Jon Janik and Jennifer Fava will decide when to officially close the course.

Golf Professional's Report

The MGA will re-rate the course from the Ladies Tees in October or November. 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.

Committee Member Comments

Marie Gross noted that the lining of the bunkers is even more pronounced now and it's getting worse. Pieces of fabric are mixing in with the sand. She asked for Todd Salamone to check all bunkers and add new sand.

Marie Gross also mentioned that the bathrooms at the half-way house were locked one late afternoon-early evening. These should remain unlocked until all golfers have left the course.

The LMGA uses Golf Genius for all their tournaments. The LWGA wants to switchover from ForeTees. Can both organizations use Golf Genius if the LWGA pays the men's group a user fee?

Pricing for charity and corporate tournaments in 2020 will be reviewed.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting and it passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Dally
GAC Chairwoman