

Town of Westport
Golf Advisory Committee
MINUTES

The Golf Advisory Committee of the Town of Westport met in Town Hall in room #201 on Tuesday, September 6, 2011. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. Members Present: Fred Hunter, Chairman; Mark Holod; Jean Murdoch; Joanna Nicholson; Gary Solomon; Scott Smith.

Guests: Skip Lane, Stuart McCarthy, John Cooper, Peter Knight

1. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of August 1, 2011, were accepted as submitted.

2. Rounds Report

Rounds were down 18% in August because of weather. The course was completely closed for three days. Despite the storm, Dan's group did a great job of clean up.

3. Greens Committee Report from August 25, 2011 (Scott Smith)

- Greens are doing fairly well. They are treated consistently.
- Tee boxes are a problem, particularly 1,2,7. Dan is thinking of using more of the tee box. Gary Solomon said that deteriorating tee boxes is the #1 problem right now. Fred said that they are considering a possible revenue generating fix for tee markers by having sponsors. The idea needs ratification by P&R Commission.
- Aeration of the greens, Sept 19 and 20.
- Repair Ball Marks signs have been placed at several holes. However, some GAC members have not seen them. There was some concern that there are too many signs around the greens.
- Drop area on 13 was not properly marked for the LWGA Club Championship. Dan said it would not occur again. However, he said that it is hard to maintain the drop area. He has recommended that LMGA use the forward orange tee as a drop area, but this suggestion was not favored by some members of GAC.
- Bump on the road/cart path in front of the tee boxes is hard on carts.
- Planning new grass and weed control around 11,15, and 9. Considering experimenting with sand bag walls in some sand traps in the fall.
- Need for angling the directions to the next hole coming off 8 and 13 so that they are more visible.

4. Discussion of LMGA event – 9/22

“Let’s Fix Longshore” – hopefully an annual event. Skip Lane reported to GAC that 100% of the proceeds for the event would go to the Halfway House.

There will be a Scramble at 1:00 PM for 100-125 people. (\$200 a person) As of Sept 6, there are 50-60 signed up. A Range Rover will be a Hole in One prize. At 6:00PM there is a Party at the Pavilion (\$50 a person), with silent and live auctions, donations of food, a DJ, and other vendor promotions. He expects 200-300 people.

5. Discussion of Chelsea System changes

John Cooper and Gary Solomon have been working on the possible changes. They came up with a hybrid system: There will be a 15 minute lag between the phone at 6:30 and live on computer at 6:45. This will start next spring, after a policy change required by P&R.

Fred Hunter entertained a motion for the GAC to recommend to P&R a change in Chelsea for a 15 minute delay between the phone and computer. The motion was made by Fred Hunter and seconded by Gary Solomon and accepted unanimously.

6. Discussion of Twilight time changes

Twilight rounds may move to 3:00 p.m. in September and 2:00 p.m. in October to encourage more people to play. The current policy allows John and Stuart the authority to make these changes.

7. Discussion of Non-resident reservation policy

John is also asking for changes in the non-resident reservation policy, allowing non-residents to book two days in advance, even on weekends. He also wants non-residents to be able to call in on the day of play to book an open time. He hates to see empty spaces. Fred asked that we give these ideas some thought, and we will discuss more.

8. Halfway House Update

\$135,000 in cash has been raised, not counting donated services and materials which will be quantified during the bid process. With the 9/22 event, we should be pretty close and can go to bid. The agreement with the Town and 9 ½ Committee is in final draft. All hand pass holders will receive an email blast this week requesting a donation. (Approximately 2,000 emails)

9. Old Business

Fred said that the October 3 meeting will be cancelled or rescheduled. He also said that sometime in September, he hoped that GAC could have a round of golf together. He would email us.

Peter Knight, a member of the audience, asked what had been done about SPLASH garbage. Stuart told him that a company out of Texas that produces large scale deodorizers for dumpsters is building one for Longshore. It is due soon.

10. New Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Joanna Nicholson
GAC Secretary