

Town of Westport
Golf Advisory Committee
MINUTES

The Golf Advisory Committee of the town of Westport met in Town Hall in room #201 on Monday, November 7, 2011. The meeting was called to order by Fred Hunter, Chairman, at 7:30 pm.

Members Present: Fred Hunter, Mark Holod, Jean Murdoch, Joanna Nicholson, Gary Solomon, Scott Smith.

1. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of September 6, 2011, were accepted with additions: Fred Hunter made a motion to recommend changes in Chelsea and Gary Solomon seconded the motion.

2. Rounds Report

Rounds are down 10%, as are rounds at neighboring courses. According to Stuart McCarthy, handpasses are down too. Possible reasons were discussed:

- Economy
- Interest in golf
- Marketing
- Some single digit players don't play Longshore
- Not much effort to mobilize youth

3. Greens Committee Report

There was no Greens committee meeting, but Scott Smith reported on what he had talked about with Dan Rackliffe.

- Work is being done on bunkers 4,5,10,12 using sand bags.
- Two oaks will come down on the tree side of hole 7.
- "Repair Ball Marks" signs are an experiment.
- Dan thinks that replacing divots on the fairway is better than having sand canisters on the carts. Some GAC members do not agree.
- Tees and drop areas still need attention.
- Roots of two trees near hole 12 are getting under the green.

4. To take such action as the meeting may determine to approve the use of Longshore for charity events for the 2012 season.

Fred Hunter made a motion to approve the 5 applications for charity events. It was seconded by Mark Holod and approved unanimously.

Fees will be adjusted according to budget. There are still 3 slots left for charity events.

5. Budget Review

There was preliminary discussion of the budget. Scott Smith noted that there is still no budget for marketing.

6. Halfway House Update

Mark Holod has done a remarkable job in getting a 19 page agreement with 100% of the town approvals obtained.

The architect (Jim Lothrop) and the general contractor (Gus Pappageorge) have been monitoring the in-kind donations. They should know by November 8 if the in-kind contributions make us reach the funding goal. Their services have been donated as well. They have made a tremendous contribution.

The Town, Friends, and 9th ½ Hole Committee will sign an agreement and be ready to break ground by the end of November or early December, if the funding goal is reached. If it is not reached, money will still need to be raised and breaking ground will be delayed until April.

The maximum cost will be \$225,000. There is \$182,000 in the bank. Donated services should be about \$45,000. The number of donors is 2-300.

7. Discussion of Reservation Policy Changes

Jean Murdoch and Joanna Nicholson distributed the information they gathered from 5 area courses about how non-residents make reservations. The purpose was to see if other courses have a better way to recruit guest players. Fred will compile the information for discussion at the next meeting.

8. Old Business

John Cooper and Stuart McCarthy will discuss the new score card this week and report at our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanna Nicholson
GAC Secretary