



# WESTPORT CONNECTICUT

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

## **Golf Advisory Committee Final Meeting Minutes March 1, 2021**

The Golf Advisory Committee of the Town of Westport conducted a Zoom meeting on Monday, March 1, 2021. The meeting was called to order by GAC chairperson Jane Dally at 7: 00 p.m.

Members present: Jane Dally, Marie Gross, Judy Domkowski, Rich Raphael, Mike Durkin, Jim Harmon and John Ehli.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 were approved with the following changes:

- In the Golf Professional's Report about the Chelsea Tee Time System, the second and third sentences were replaced with the following: "Jen Fava suggested a sub committee of 2 or 3 people to look at other options, compare it to Chelsea and make a recommendation as to what system should be used for the 2022 golf season. Jane volunteered to work with Jon."
- Regarding Fee increases, Jen Fava suggested the 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence should read, "The proposed golf fee increase of \$2.00 across the board was reviewed. The increase would also apply to carts." Jen Fava will take this to the next Parks & Recreation Commission meeting and the Board of Selectman for a final decision.
- In the Superintendent's Report, February 15<sup>th</sup> is the tentative day for the return of the maintenance staff and not the clean-up day as stated.

### **Comments from the Public**

There were no members of the public in attendance for the meeting.

### **President's Report**

- Anne Haymon announced the opening meeting for the 9-hole league is March 11; opening day is April 8<sup>th</sup>. Their membership drive is underway.
- Winnie Hamilton reported 70 people have already registered for the upcoming LWGA season. This includes 4 new people. A Zoom opening meeting is planned for April 6<sup>th</sup>. The handbook should be going to press after the March 23<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting. The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Member/Guest Celebration, which was postponed last summer, is now planned for August 31<sup>st</sup>. Winnie also noted Jon and Jen approved the return to pre COVID Tuesday tee times for the league.
- Jon Lieber announced approval for 25 events for the LMGA. The kick-off meeting is being scheduled for the last week of April. The membership drive will begin shortly. Twilight play will commence during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April on Monday and Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. The LMGA Member/Guest is planned for July 16-17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Administrative Report by Jen Fava**

The proposed \$2.00 across the board increases in fees were approved by the Parks & Recreation Board and will go to the office of the First Selectman on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

A snow-storm delayed Turco from starting the repair of the practice area around the 17<sup>th</sup> green. It will take around 10 days to complete the project.

The recently purchased new tractor and aerator will both be delivered by the end of the month.

There is on-going contact with Geese Relief as the geese are back. Geese Relief said it has been a tough year as the geese are going further inland in search of food.

Jane Dally asked Jen about how much is in the town budget for golf. Jen said the proposed amount should be similar to last year. The Town budget will not be approved until May.

### **Superintendent's Report by Todd Salamone**

The spring crew arrived today. Other members of the full-time staff will be in place by the end of April, when part time people will be hired. For the first time, a Staples intern will be on board.

The course seems to have gotten through the winter pretty-well and looks healthy. The plan is to heavily fertilize the greens to wake them up before aerating with the new tractor and aerator. While the snow is gone, the course is extremely soft/wet so the work being done initially is on the perimeter of the course.

Additional signs and ropes have been purchased to protect selected holes from cart damage. The holes include 1, 3, 4, 17 and all par 3s. Todd told us he is using the geese gun again.

The criteria for opening the course include: no snow, the cleanup has been completed and the ground is firm/free of excessive moisture.

### **Golf Professional's Report by Jon Janik**

For the upcoming season, the course will open at pre-COVID-19 times. Because of favorable reviews, 10-minute tee time intervals will be maintained. Jr. Golf instruction will again be available. Booked outings will be available on the website. Mark Ferrell, previously at Smith Richardson, will join the Longshore Staff as another golf professional.

Fifty new golf carts will be arriving later this month. Over-night charging limitations preclude ordering more carts. No date has yet been set to rate the women's tees. A few practice area mats may need to be replaced or turned. The condition of "range balls" is mixed. The course uses Bridgestone range balls but some golfers bring their own. Range balls deteriorate rapidly because of the poor condition of the turf. Given a site review of the entire park is in the works, no action will be taken.

### **GAC Committee Member Comments/Issues**

When asked, Jen said she was not at liberty to discuss what is going on regarding a restaurant to replace Pearl. Also, she also said the course will probably open with the same COVID restrictions that were in place at the end of last season. Rakes maybe added but probably not water fountains.

The Zoom meeting ended at 7:50pm.

Respectively submitted, Judy Domkowski (Approved by Chairperson, Jane Dally)