

Westport Golf Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2024

The Golf Advisory Committee of the Town of Westport conducted a Zoom meeting on Monday, April 1, 2024. The meeting was called to order by GAC chairperson, Jane Dally at 7:00p.m.

Members Present: Jane Dally, Mike Durkin, Irla Landry, Rich Raphael, Corey Miller and John Ehli.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 4 meeting passed unanimously.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Presidents Reports

9 Holers – President Anne Haymon reported the league has hit their maximum with 120 members. 11 of those women are new members. Most members are Westporters. They held their opening meeting on March 14 at the Library. Thursday, April 4 is opening day.

LWGA 18 holers – President Sue Roberts reported. 116 members have registered for the new season. Fourteen of those women are new members. A new Member Handbook is in the works. The opening meeting will be held on April 11 at the Saugatuck Congregational Church. Sue thanked Jen Fava and the DPW for the upgrades to the Ladies Lockerroom.

LMGA – Ryan Smith reported that the league held an opening meeting on March 5. He is looking at a similar tournament schedule to last year with 19 regular events and three season long events. Current membership is 259 members. The target membership number for this year is 455. A pre-season event is set for Saturday, April 6.

Administrator Report

The golf course officially opened for the season on April 1.
The Ladies LockerRoom upgrades have been completed.
All golf charity events for 2024 have been approved and scheduled.
Half-way house is set to open on April 20 with new staff.

Superintendent Report

Sean Charles has been busy familiarizing himself with the course. He is hiring staff and he has hired a full time mechanic to work on the equipment. He is busy with course clean up and mowing down fescue and weeds. The greens were aerified and some tees were aerified. Sean said the months of April and May are vitally important to the health of the course and setting it up for the summer months.

Golf Pro Report

Jon Janik reported that the course had 101 rounds on opening day. That included some play by the Staples Girls Golf team. Many people complimented the condition of the course. Chelsea Reservations is working. Jon has updated the master tournament calendar through September. Junior Golf classes sold out. 80% of pro shop merchandise has arrived. Puma will be a new apparel line this year.

GAC Comments

Irla Landry said the course looked great.

Corey Miller asked about Geese Relief services and Jen Fava said they come several times a week to flush the geese from the course.

Sean brings his dog to work and the dog also runs the course to get rid of the geese.

Rich Raphael inquired about finding a sponsor for divot tools and give all golfers a tool so they can repair ball marks. Golfers also need to know how to properly fix a divot on the greens without damaging the turf and root system. Will a card in the carts work to remind people?

John Ehli asked Jen Fava for an update on the clubhouse and long range plan. He thinks the town should have a facilitator to move these projects along. Jen Fava has no updates on timing of the projects.

Jane Dally asked John Janik to update the website and keep all information current.

The Zoom meeting ended at 7:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Jane Dally
GAC Chairperson