Golf Advisory Board
Town of Groton
Parks & Recreation Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
Dec. 3, 2012

Call Meeting to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Tim Castleberry at 7:00 PM.

Attendees

Mark Berry, Tim Castleberry, Todd Goodhue, Tom Kiely, Cindy Lathrop, Brian McCallen, Eric Morrison, Duncan Olding

Jim Streeter, Ralph Little, Margaret Hirsch and Jim Kamercia were not in attendance.

Minutes of Oct. 15, 2012

Language was amended for the Preliminary Golf Course rates review. The 2013 rate proposals should have reflected a 0% or 3% rate increase, not solely 3%. Tom Kiely motioned to accept the amended minutes from the Oct. 15 meeting. Motion to accept made by Cindy Lathrop. Seconded by Duncan Olding. Minutes accepted.

Correspondence from GAB Members

Cindy said the Shennecossett Women's Golf Association had several suggestions for course improvements. The GAB did not agree that labeling sprinkler heads with yardages would necessarily speed play. Eric said the Associations' suggestion to improve the ladies tees at several holes, specifically the enlargement of the No. 2 tee, improvements to the No. 11 tee and a few others would be addressed in the off season. ~~A request for a flush toilet on or near the 8th tee was deemed to be a capital improvement project that would be too costly.~~ *Town money has been set aside for a new flush toilet on or near the 8th tee. Mark said the golf course comfort station, slated to be built in 2015, has been budgeted at $2,000 for engineering, $15,000 for construction, pending Town Council and RTM approval.* Compliance issues were also cited. Eric said the fescue grasses in front of the No. 15 tee could be shortened as per the Association's request. He also explained that there are no red hazard stakes to the left of No. 15 green because this area is not in fact a lateral hazard. A final question about when the course will be rerated was answer by Todd: About nine years from now, as per the Connecticut Golf Association's schedule.

Review of Monthly Revenue Report

As noted in the November 2012 report, Todd said the course is roughly $16,000 below November 2011 revenue levels. Volume was well below last year's levels. Todd noted that November's weather was unseasonably cold, which limited play and resulted in an

average of 20 fewer rounds this year than last. However, Tim noted that revenues are ahead of 2010 levels.

Approval of 2013 Golf Rates

Two options were put forward: an across-the-board 0% increase; and a proposed 3% rate increase that applies only to Resident and Non-Resident Season Passes in all categories. Todd pointed out that these passes are less expensive than other area public courses. He added that the green fee structure is on par with area competitors. Because of rate sensitivity in the current economy, Tim said if there was no further discussion pro or con, the across-the-board 0% proposal for 2013 rates should be considered. Tom made a motion that the GAB support the 0% rate increase proposed by Todd for both Season Passes and Daily Fees. Seconded by Duncan. All board members were in favor of holding next season's rates at the current level.

Meeting Schedule & Officers for 2013

Tom and Tim said the November meeting date should be reinstated. It was decided that the GAB would convene every other month in 2013, i.e., February, April and June. The GAB would skip July and August. The board would then meet in September, October and November, with the possibility of an emergency meeting in early December prior to the Town Council meeting.

Tom recommended that the constituency of the GAB board remain status quo. The GAB voted unanimously to retain the current structure of the board.

Tim commended Eric and his crew for the quick cleanup of the golf course in the wake of Hurricane Sandy.

Next Meeting Date

Feb. 4, 2013

Adjournment

Time – 8:00 PM. Tom motioned to adjourn, seconded by Duncan.

Brian McCallen
Secretary, GAB

Minutes have been approved and accepted. As amended by Brian

Signature

2/4/13
Date