

## **GOLF COMMISSION MEETING**

June 3, 2019

Mayor's Conference Room – Room 128

**Present:** Jeffrey Gallant, Karen Deneen, David Noyes, Michael Budwick, Aleksander Dernalowicz

**In Attendance:** William Frank, Daniel Berry

**Minute Taker:** Aleksander Dernalowicz

The meeting came to order at 4:31 PM.

Jeffrey Gallant asked if anyone was audio or videotaping the meeting. *None*

Michael Budwick made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from May 6, 2019 as written, seconded by Karen Deneen. 5-0 so voted.

### **Dan Berry Update:**

The Holy Family golf tournament was played on Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. The day went well as the tournament had 48 golfers. Starting tee spots were staggered in a way to allow the course to open to other golfers at 10:30 going off the 10<sup>th</sup>.

The Carriage House tournament was played today, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. There were 72 golfers in a tournament that had been held for years at the former Winchendon School Golf Club.

Some applications are in for new employees in the pro shop.

The golf carts are not ready yet, nor is GMGC the first golf course in line for the carts. The hope is switch in 20 at a time as they are completed. There are currently 50 carts at the course and the contract calls for 54. The hope is to work out a deal for the carts being late and the course being short carts, as we started the year with 40. Dan will continue to follow up with the cart company on a weekly basis.

The current season pass holders total is roughly 360. Many of them are juniors. There has been a particular influx of junior pass holders from the Westminster area. It has been noted that while they are at the lower season pass rate, they are taking carts at a high frequency.

There have been complaints of marijuana smoking on the deck at the golf course. An email was sent addressing this issue. Individuals were spoken to in regards to this. They moved the parking lot and have been informed that this is unacceptable as well, as consumption of marijuana in public is still illegal. The situation will continued to be monitored. Further actions

will be contemplated if the situation persists. Michael Budwick stated he had spoken to the Board of Health and he is able to put up no smoking signs on the deck if he wishes. At this point he does not wish to push tobacco smokers off the deck.

Some type of deal to get early season pass purchases for the 2020 season this year was brought up. Commission members were asked to think of ways to entice current pass holders to purchase this year and bring them to the next meeting. New season pass holders would join for the remainder of the year and then next year at the 2020 price point.

### **William Frank Update:**

There has been a lot of drainage work done on the course. Stone has been put in on 6, 11, and 13. Sod has been placed on 10. The crew has been overseeding the thinner greens – 1, 12, & 17.

There continues to be a semi-spending freeze as no part-timers have started. The stated goal is to get through the fiscal year. This would put their start date at July 7<sup>th</sup>.

The women's tee on the 11<sup>th</sup> hole has been difficult to mow it is still very wet. Bill stated his crew will lay a crushed stone path to the tee. He mentioned that the pipe to drain Crystal Lake has been open for some time and the water levels have been dropping. This should help to alleviate the wet areas around this tee.

The 7<sup>th</sup> hole is still very wet as well. It was noted that it is on a rock ledge and is very shady. The only way to fully remedy is to cut trees to increase sun and air flow or to bring in equipment to dig drainage at a very high cost.

### **Commission Members' Comments and Reports:**

Michael Budwick recently played in a tournament at Westminster CC. It was noted that WCC was turning a blind eye to outside coolers. He wanted to make sure we are on the watch for outside beverages at GMGC.

Karen Deneen brought up parking behind Bunkers by people who are playing golf. These spaces are designated for restaurant patrons only as indicated by 2 signs as you enter this parking lot. An email will be sent out to season pass holders to tell them this will be enforced. Individual signs on the spaces was discussed. Wording on the signs will need to be finalized and William Frank will work with the city to get them made.

David Noyes has received comments from season pass holders that the course is drying out nicely. He played at Ellinwood recently. He stated that they were enthused at the 55 players in the group. When they left, there were very few cars in the parking lot.

Aleksander Dernalowicz brought up advertising spending. It was noted that we still have some credit with WXLO to use up. There is no distinct budget. He mentioned using the emails we have on file to create “Lookalike” audiences for Facebook advertising, especially as related to getting new pass holders this fall and the Columbus Day Four-Ball. It was also mentioned to send a targeted message to former pass holders to rejoin this fall.

Jeffrey Gallant has received feedback that the bathroom cleanliness has improved.

**Financials:**

Receipts were reviewed. Expenses were lower than last year. Jeff will send out the receipts via email to the Commission when he has them to be reviewed. If necessary, a request can be made to the City Council for funds from reserve accounts to make it through the fiscal year ending June 30th.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 24, 2019 in the Mayor’s Conference Room at 4:30 PM.

Michael Budwick made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Karen Deneen. 5-0 so voted.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Aleksander Dernalowicz