

**Wicomico Shores Golf Course Advisory Board
MINUTES
Wednesday, November 9, 2017**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Richardson, Chairperson; Dick Buckler, Bob Collier, Peter Delman, David Phalen, Jenny Russell and Jerry Slagle.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

R&P STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT: Arthur Shepherd, Director; Nick Isom, Golf Course Manager; and Jim Farren, Golf Course Superintendent; all from St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Wicomico Shores Golf Course (WSGC) Advisory Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the WSGC Clubhouse.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bob Collier, moved, seconded by Peter Delman, to approve the minutes of September 13, 2017 with corrections; motion carried with all in favor.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Director Arthur Shepherd stated that the Wicomico Shores Golf Course plan of action was approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on October 3, 2017 and calls for: 1) continuing to fund the WSGC operational expenses, including the debt service, within the WSGC Enterprise Fund; and 2) funding major projects through the Recreation Facilities and Parks Improvements CIP.

Capital Budget

FY2018 - Reconstructing bunkers on nine holes at the Golf Course will be funded from savings from other projects (\$175,000). Other items for FY2018 (two mowers) are already budgeted via exempt financing (\$55,000). FY2019 plan calls for: bunkers \$175,000; maintenance equipment \$60,000; carpet for restaurant \$25,000 (total FY2019 \$260,000).

Jim Farren noted that estimates are coming in higher than originally anticipated for the bunkers. Elimination or reshaping some of the bunkers may be needed; the exact square footage will be specified in the project scope of work. Combining the FY2018 and FY2019 projects may be needed (\$435,000) to get the overall bunker project completed.

Mr. Shepherd noted the positive strides that have been made over the past 14 months: a PGA Professional; Golf Course plan of action (CIP projects); internet connectivity upgrade; new cart lease; and online tee times.

David Phalen moved, seconded Dick Buckler, by to recommend the FY2019 funding allocation to be used for the bunkers. Motion carried 7-0.

Operating Budget

Nick Isom, Golf Course Manager, provided financial handouts for the period July - October. He noted that rounds are up over this time last year by 2,600 which equates to \$498,750 in revenue (up \$59,000 from last year).

The cost for the new carts is included in the FY2018 operating budget. Mr. Farren noted that five carts of the leased fleet need motor repairs.

Modest increases in golf rates may be proposed for FY2019 to offset expenses. Rates have not increased in three years (last increase was FY2015). The budget discussion will be continued at the January 2018 meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

The CSMC will present a proclamation to Lucy Erskine on Tuesday, November 14 at 9:00 am upon the occasion of her retirement.

Mr. Delman suggested that pink tee markers should be installed for the ladies.

SCHEDULING THE NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the WSGC Advisory Board will be held on January 17, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 P.M.

Kathy Bailey, Recorder (from tape recording)

Minutes approved by the WSGC Advisory Board on January 17, 2018.