

WICOMICO SHORES GOLF COURSE ADVISORY BOARD

June 14, 2006
Meeting Minutes
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Merrill "Chico" Rivers, Chairperson, Jim Hodges, Vice-Chairperson, Phil Cranford, Robert Richardson, Wayne Pettit, Rick Smith and Gloria Tippet.

OTHERS ATTENDING: Phil Rollins, Director, Recreation, Parks and Community Services (RP&CS), and Pat Meyers, Golf Course Manager, RP&CS.

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 Wicomico Shores Golf Course Clubhouse.

SNACK BAR

Chairman Rivers stated that he has received several inquires about the hours of the snack bar; people are telling him that the snack bar is closed sometimes when they would like to purchase food items. Mr. Rivers stated that the hours of the snack bar should be posted for the public.

Rick Smith suggested that these types of situations should be communicated to the Golf Course Manager and she should handle them as management issues. Chairman Rivers agreed and recommended a suggestion box so patrons could submit concerns for the Golf Course Manager to review and address.

DISCUSSION ON GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE CONCEPT PLANS

Chairman Rivers stated that he's not sure that the proposed size and capacity of the kitchen is going to meet needs of the golf course in years to come. If it was decided to increase the business in the snack bar, that might be difficult with the proposed size of the kitchen.

Mr. Rollins stated that first the mission of the kitchen would need to be considered. Would it be a full-service restaurant to serve the community or is the mission of the food and beverage operation to primarily be a service to the golfers? Several years ago, the decision was made to provide bar and grill only type services to the golfers after it was determined that the full-service restaurant was not successful. The current concept calls for it to continue as a bar and grill with provisions for outings and catered events.

Mr. Hodges stated that he thought it would be wise to increase the capacity of the kitchen for future use. If the opportunity develops to increase the businesses of the food and beverage operation, it would be good to have the accommodations in place. Mr. Hodges stated that during the last meeting, Mr. Jochum stated that yes, there may be some room upstairs to expand the kitchen; however the area below could be utilized with a dumb waiter. Chairman Rivers recommended a facility that could serve sit down meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Rick Smith stated he thought it might be good to have the ability for future expansion. Mr. Pettit stated that he felt it would be good to serve the golfers and the surrounding community; plans should be made now, not later during another renovation of the kitchen.

Mr. Pettit stated that he recently attended a Fish and Steak Night at the American Legion Post 221 in Avenue. They served, fish, steak, baked potatoes, green beans and a salad for \$12. Chairman Rivers referred to Hill's Store where they upgraded the kitchen and serve breakfast and lunch. Mr. Rollins asked if anyone knew why Breton Bay Golf and Country Club didn't add a full service restaurant to their new clubhouse a few years ago. Mr. Rollins stated that if the banquet facility rental becomes popular it would difficult to maintain a full-service restaurant and schedule banquets. These functions would be in conflict for space.

Commissioner Mattingly previously asked staff to explore better access to the banquet room for caterers. Pat Meyers met with Eddie Bailey, of Bailey's Catering, to get a caterer's input on the layout for the kitchen. Mr. Bailey liked the layout for the facility. Mr. Bailey suggested installing another door near the chair storage room for the caterer to use instead of having them use the main doorway. She will speak to Mr. Bailey about what would be needed to upgrade the proposed kitchen to serve three meals per day.

Mr. Hodges suggested expanding the men's bathroom to hold three urinals and three commodes; he talked to the architect who indicated that could be done. Gloria Tippet suggested four commodes for the women's bathroom; she thought the banquet side bathroom was sufficient. Also, ladies have suggested they would like to have some lockers. Mr. Hodges said the downstairs bathroom is unisex and may also need to be expanded.

Mr. Rollins will contact Mr. Jochum regarding the Board's recommendations on the ability to expand and increase the capacity of the kitchen and to maximum the number of urinals and commodes in the restrooms.

Ms. Meyers stated that the solicitation is out to bid for the temporary trailer to house the golf course operation while the Clubhouse renovation and expansion is underway. She will report to the Alcohol Beverage Board in August regarding the renovation project.

Mr. Rollins has had discussions with Elaine Kramer, Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Department, regarding the available cash balance in the Golf Course savings account. The audit will be completed in the near future; therefore, he will have a better handle on exactly how much money will need to be borrowed. Also, staff will be submitting the Program Open Space grant for BOCC concurrence and Department of Natural Resources and Board of Public Works approval in the next few weeks.

ENTERPRISE ARTICLE

Mr. Hodges stated that several errors regarding the funding of the Clubhouse project were made in a recent Enterprise Article written by Jason Babcock. The Board decided not to respond to the article.

SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the WSGC Advisory Board will be held on September 13, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Wicomico Shores Golf Course.

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

Kathy Bailey, Recorder