

**Wicomico Shores Golf Course Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 21, 2009**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chico Rivers, Chairperson; Jim Hodges, Vice-Chairperson; Wayne Pettit, Bob Richardson and Gloria Tippett.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Phil Cranford.

R&P STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT: Pat Meyers, Golf Course Manager.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jim Hodges moved, seconded by Gloria Tippett, to approve the minutes of August 13, 2009. Motion carried 5-0.

Gloria Tippett moved, seconded by Bob Richardson, to approve the special meeting minutes of September 17, 2009. Motion carried 4-0 (Wayne Pettit abstained as he did not attend the September meeting).

Jim Hodges moved, seconded by Bob Richardson, to approve the Executive Session minutes of September 17, 2009. Motion carried 4-0 (Wayne Pettit abstained as he did not attend the September meeting).

GOLF COURSE UPDATES

Ms. Meyers provided several fiscal update spreadsheets to the Board. The first quarter showed the course is up by 1,000 rounds. The net profit/loss now reflects the monthly debt service as opposed to a lump sum on July 1st as was reported last year. The handouts reflect increased play and decreased expenses due to some "belt tightening" by staff. Projections and revenue and expenses to date were also provided. Some cost savings has been realized with buying supplies and food when they are on sale with the plan to use them in the near future.

Vice-Chairman Hodges asked how many upcoming rentals have been booked for the Riverview Restaurant. Ms. Myers stated that there was one event in September and two weddings are booked for October. Staff also plans a Halloween special for October. In September, five golf tournaments were held; for October, 4 are planned. Vice-Chairman Hodges expressed concern that there was only one rental in September.

Ms. Meyers stated that staff is working on a new fee schedule for facility rental and food. She asked, "Do you charge a separate room rental fee or include room fee in the price for the food?" The policy for tournaments has been that there is no rental fee if buying food from the restaurant; if they bring in their own caterer, they pay a room rental fee. Staff is working to determine the best way to market this. Kim Cullins, the Museum Marketing Specialist, will begin assisting the Golf Course with marketing and promotion.

There is no cost associated with her services. Wayne Pettit noted that “we have to make sure we are competitive on our rates and services.” It was suggested that maybe the Board or Golf Manager should attend an upcoming Wicomico Shores homeowner’s association meeting. It was noted the economy is probably hurting some restaurants; people are still eating out, but are making lower cost choices.

Ms. Meyers noted that the renovated Clubhouse officially opened one year ago today.

The solicitation went out last week for the new fleet of golf carts. The county is asking for quotes two different ways: one with five year lease with an option to purchase; the other would just be a five year lease. The proposals will be evaluated when they come in; costs will determine if the fleet is replaced this year or next.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Vice-Chairperson Hodges asked if Ms. Meyers would check into getting the rebate from Burco for the score card advertising; she stated she will do that.
- He reminded the Board that the tee ads will have to be addressed in 2011.
- Ms. Tippettt noted that there is no sand in the bottles in the carts. Ms. Meyers stated that staff has heard not many people use them.
- Bob Richardson stated that the trap rakes break easily; Ms. Meyers stated that the more expensive ones cost more to replace.

SCHEDULING THE NEXT MEETING

Chairman Rivers asked the Board what they thought about going back to the original meeting schedule of every three months.

Wayne Pettit moved, seconded by Jim Hodges, to go back to the previous meeting schedule and to call special meetings as needed. Motion carried 5-0.

The next meeting of the WSGC Advisory Board will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, at 6:00 p.m.

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

Kathy Bailey, Recorder