

Wicomico Shores Golf Course Advisory Board MINUTES
July 21, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bernie Kneeland, Chairperson; Jim Hodges, Pete Delman, Greg Weaver, Dave Phalen, Tom Eicholtz

R&P STAFF PRESENT: Arthur Shepherd, R&P Director; Patrick Dugan, WSGC General Manager; Darlene Stalcup, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Brian Hammett, Jason Tuemler

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Wicomico Shores Golf Course (WSGC) Advisory Board was called to order at 4:00p.m. at the Riverview Restaurant at Wicomico Shores Golf Course by the Board Chair, Bernie Kneeland

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the April 2021 meeting were approved by email prior to the July meeting

GOLF COURSE/RESTAURANT UPDATES

Director Shepherd presented the following documents/ information to the board

- Year to Date Comparisons – FY 2021 Compared to FY 2020 Rounds of Golf
- Year to Date Comparisons – 7 Year Financial Comparison FY21
- Year to Date Comparisons – April-June 2021 Monthly Comparison to FY20
- Capital Improvement Project Summary Golf Course Advisory Board
 - ADA Compliant Golf Cart
 - PA System Upgrade
 - Flags for Handicap Access for carts. (This process will be controlled by Golf Shop)
 - FY22 Budget still has 75K identified for CIP (work to fix work shop area).
 - Triple Creek has the P.O. for the completion of the cart paths. (163 K funding is covered)
- Memo to County Commissioners returning money to the Golf Enterprise Fund.
 - Recreation & Parks Director Shepherd commented that at the May 11 County Commissioners meeting the Commissioners agreed that they will be paying off the WSGC mortgage
- Hole 15 still needs to be worked especially the area around the ponds. County Commissioners will find money in budget to fund repair/ rework.
- New flooring needed in the lobby, county will pay for it

OLD BUSINESS

- COVID Updates
- Cart Path Completion Update
 - Completion is still impacted by weather. Trading Post is now the subcontractor for the completion of the project. Funding is already covered.
- New Board Member
 - Welcomed Tom Eicholtz as our new member to the Board.
- Bag Drop
 - Still Waiting on decision from Legal, Risk Management, and Human Resources on decision to operate golf carts in the parking lot.
 - Board agreed to write a letter to the County Commissioners with the Board's recommendations
- Expanding Restaurant Hours
 - Still be driven by staffing issues

NEW BUSINESS

- Tee Boxes
 - Director Shepherd stated that Jim and crew are very busy at this time maintaining the existing course. He recommended that any discussion on improving existing Tee Boxes be deferred until November to be part of FY23 budget discussion.
- Pete Delman suggested that Course Management develop a priority system for work to improve the course and to address staff increases.
- The Board received the following inputs from two members who attended the meeting:
 - Have the course emphasize that all golfers make a concerted effort to repair ball marks on the greens.
 - Have the course emphasize keeping golf carts a reasonable distance from the greens (Consider marking the area with paint / chalk). This is to keep the area around the greens more playable.
 - Have the course make an effort to adjust pin placements to the condition of the greens. (e.g. Holes 7 and 8 have a history of developing rough / worn areas. Try to avoid placing pins in the rougher areas of the greens).
 - Overall look hard at grass cutting strategy. The amount/size of nature grass areas on some holes needs to be reviewed. As one of the members pointed out, for the average weekend golfer you should consider having a bailout one side or the other. This will help manage the pace of play. Additionally, the depth of the grass needs to be managed. The type of grass adjacent to the fairways can make it difficult to find golf balls that are really not that far from the fairway. This has an impact on pace of play.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Wicomico Shores Golf Course Clubhouse.

ADJOURNMENT

Jim Hodges made a motion to adjourn and Dave Phelan 2nd the motion. The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:30 P.M.

Darlene Stalcup

D. Stalcup - R&P staff, Recorder

Minutes approved by the WSGC Advisory Board on October 4, 2021