

Wicomico Shores Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting (Wednesday, April 26, 2023)

Generated by Darlene Stalcup on May 3, 2023

A. Call to Order

The meeting of the Wicomico Shores Golf Course Advisory Board (WSGCAB) was called to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Riverview Restaurant at Wicomico Shores Golf Course by the Board Chair, Bernie Kneeland

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Bernie Kneeland, Chairperson; Jim Hodges, Terry Black, Greg Weaver, Tom Eicholtz

Members Absent: Dave Phalen and Brian Hammett

R&P Staff Present: Arthur Shepherd, R&P Director; Patrick Dugan, WSGC General Manager

C. **Minutes:** January 19, 2023 (already approved electronically and posted)

D. GOLF COURSE/RESTAURANT UPDATES

- o Patrick Dugan presented the following documents/ information to the board.
- Annual Comparison FY15-FY23
- Year to Date Rounds of Golf, Revenue and Expense Comparison FY23 to FY22
- Expense and Revenue Comparison FY23 to FY22

In summary of the above documents, Patrick reported that golf operations were doing well. Restaurant expenses continue to be a challenge as costs are higher than anticipated.

- Status of other Capital Improvement/ Equipment Purchases
 - o FY24 budget includes additional funding via ECC for capital equipment (mowers, Gator, tractor)
 - o Patrick reported he has coordinated a 10-year plan with Jim for future capital equipment purchases. Patrick provided a copy of the spreadsheet of the plan
 - o Capital Improvement Project Summary FY23
 - o Patrick reported that FY23 CIP efforts were on track. Most of the FY23 CIP efforts have focused on green repair/ maintenance.
 - o Capital Improvement Project FY24
 - o FY24 efforts will focus on Tee Box improvement.

E. Annual Pass Service Fee

- o The Board discussed the service fee applied to this year's annual pass if the pass was not fully paid in one installment. This is a change from past policy which has permitted the payment of annual passes two payments (one due 1 April, one due 1 July). Patrick stated that the service fee was to offset the increased workload on his employees to collect the second payment. After some discussion, Tom Eicholtz asked if it was not possible to set up a monthly payment schedule approach. Patrick said he was already starting to see if that was possible. Based on feedback from Art Shepherd and Patrick there may be a decision on a revised approach in the near future.
- Additional
 - Patrick reported that new flooring was installed in the restaurant entrance area and the lobby outside the pro shop. Additionally, he reported that tile repair on the porch area and a repair or replacement of the canopy cover for the patio area is in work. The County provided funds for these efforts.

F. OLD BUSINESS

- o Response to Board's second letter to County Commissioners
- o A review of the County Commissioner's response to the Board's second letter concerning golf carts in the parking lot was discussed. Although disappointed with the decision, the Board accepts the Commissioner's decision. No further discussion is planned on this topic at this time.
- o Tee Box Improvement Effort
- o Tee Box improvement efforts will be scheduled for later this calendar year. Awaiting the tractor and gator equipment planned for early FY24.

G. NEW BUSINESS

- Update on FY24 Budget Inputs

- Pat and Art reported that the FY24 budget request for the Golf course is looking very positive. The budget request has not been challenged in the County budget review to date. Additional Funds have also been identified (via ECC) to cover the addition of 400 hours for ground crew efforts, 832 hours to fund an office aide to assist the Course Manager and to fund leases for greens mower, Gator vehicle, Surround mower, sand rake machine, and one tractor with bucket and backhoe.
- The FY24 budget includes a 50K line item for additional Capital Improvements in FY24.
- Reviewed the Wicomico Shores Golf Course Fee Schedule provided by Pat prior to the meeting. There are some changes planned for FY24. No changes in 7-day unlimited season pass fees for individual or seniors. Small changes to fees for non-season pass holders. Cart fees will remain unchanged. A complete list of the proposed rate changes is available upon request.
- Update on County efforts on “Green Initiatives
 - No “Green Efforts have been identified yet.

H. ADJOURNMENT

- Jim Hodges made a motion to adjourn and Terry Black 2nd the motion. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:05 P.M.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 19 at 6:00 pm at the Wicomico Shores Golf Course Clubhouse.

Minutes approved electronically by the WSGC Advisory Board on May 2, 2023 and posted online.