



## **South Hadley Municipal Golf Commission**

Meeting Minutes 06/13/2016

Members present: Bill Foley, Len Finkowski, Jim Brough, Mark Dubois, Jeff Millard, George Francis, Kyle Steinbock

Staff Present: Mike Fontaine, James Falco

Visitors: Chris Collins, Selectboard member Bruce Forcier

Bill Foley called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Jeff Millard made a motion to accept the minutes from the 05/09/16 Golf Commission Meeting. Jim Brough seconded the motion. The vote to accept was unanimous.

Announcements / Open Forum:

Mr. Foley announced that Jeff Millard and Kyle Steinbock have been reappointed to the Golf Commission for three year terms.

There are three candidates for the two auxiliary member openings on the Golf Commission. Of the three candidates, only Chris Collins was in attendance for the interviews by the Selectboard. The other two candidates have been re-invited for interviews at the 6-21-16 Selectboard meeting. Mr. Foley intends to contact all the Selectboard members in support of Chris Collins candidacy.

Golf Course Superintendents report:

Mike reported that the Connecticut PGA championship went very well. There were 48 players in attendance. The rain the Sunday and Tuesday before the tournament created some challenges. The Connecticut PGA chapter has expressed an interest in returning for the next three years.

Golf carts have been driven on the greens at holes # 2, 3, and 6, causing a lot of damage. Carts have also damaged yardage markers, tee markers, bunkers, and sprinkler heads, and some fairways.

The 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> tees need irrigation work.

A diver is needed to clean the intake pipe for pump to the irrigation pond.

Funding for these and other necessary projects needs to be made available prior to the start of the fiscal year.

Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, IGM will be taking over the maintenance at Mill Valley Golf Links.

General Managers Report: (by Jim Falco)

The course is in good shape. There are 14 leagues playing at The Ledges.

The number of rounds for May was down a little from last year, due to the weather.

Weather reports have a huge impact on day to day activity at the course.

Jim is “rangering” the course as time permits, keeping the pace of play up. He is getting lots of positive comments about that, and his great customer service. It would be nice to have rangers on the course full time.

The flyers are out for this summer’s Junior Golf Camps. Jim and his staff will be the instructors.

Mr. Foley commented that the transition for the new PGA Pro has gone as well as could be expected.

Mr. Dubois commented that the beverage cart is doing a better job of serving the golfers needs.

The beverage cart is not allowed on Mulligan Drive as it is a public road, and the carts are not registered or insured. There are also several other areas on the course where the beverage cart is not allowed.

Jim stated the financials for May were down about 10% from last year, mostly due to the weather. June is looking better so far.

Jim would like to incentivize golfers to use the Valley View Grille, possibly by offering discounts on food / golf packages, or coupons for discounts. Golfers are remembering last year’s overly complex menu, wait for food, and are not stopping in the Grille. Offering specials and discounts may be a way to reverse that.

The grille is struggling to get started, and with getting and keeping staff.

The removal of the bar stools seems to have created a bottle neck at the kitchen door. Servers are unable to easily navigate through the folks standing at the bar waiting for service. It seemed to have flowed better when the stools better defined the space.

#### New Business:

Mr. Foley reminded the commission that the annual election of officers needs to occur. He also stated that he felt it was time for someone else to chair the commission.

Kyle Steinbock nominated Mark Dubois as Chairman. Jim Brough seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The vote to accept was unanimous. Jim Brough nominated Len Finkowski as Vice Chairman. Jeff Millard seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The vote to accept was unanimous. Bill Foley nominated George Francis as Secretary. Len Finkowski seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The vote to accept was unanimous.

#### Old business:

Jim Brough inquired as to the status of the two / four ball tournaments mentioned last month. Mr. Falco responded that weekend business was too good to interrupt it at this time. He felt it would actually cost us lost revenue to hold a weekend tournament at this time.

At 8:17, George Francis made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Len Finkowski. The vote to accept was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,  
George Francis