

Yarmouth Golf Enterprise Committee
Minutes of Meeting
September 9, 2019

Attending Committee Members: Beverly Arnett, Ellen Chapman, Ted Deckel (Chairperson), Kristen Seymour, and Richard Simon (Andy Martin absent)

Attending from the Golf Department: Becky White, and Scott Gilmore

Attending from the Public: Betty Lou Mitchell, Jay Fraprie

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:07 PM at the Bayberry Maintenance Building. The minutes of the previous meeting (07/29/2019) were reviewed and approved.

Public Comments: Comments made by Betty Lou Mitchell: Bathroom sink in Women's Room at Bass River doesn't always work. Women's golf league planning to purchase Bass River golf towels for end of year tournament.

GEC Agenda Items:

- 1) Minutes of the previous meeting (July 29, 2019) were reviewed and unanimously approved.
- 2) GEC Chairperson Deckel made some brief remarks about his public comments at the Aug 6th Board of Selectman meeting regarding new GEC appointments. He reported Selectman Forest plans to recommend another new GEC member so the committee has 7 members and urged the entire committee to promote service on the committee to other qualified members of the community.
- 3) Acting Director Gilmore outlined plans for the 'End of Year' party for members on Sept 23rd from 5-7pm at the Bass River Grill. Radio PIX103/Frank FM will be broadcasting from the party. During the event, the Scott will recognize members who volunteered (e.g. Divot Day) and share key dates related to the NGF report.
- 4) GEC member Simon summarized the proposed Dennis Glyphosate Ban which had been tabled by the Board of Selectman. Acting Director Gilmore had joined other municipal golf officials for an onsite meeting regarding 'organic' turf management at the Hyannis Golf course. In response to the Barnstable town manager order, the course is attempting to implement a total ban of weed, insect and fungicide chemicals. The turf conditions were noticeably worse with a reported 30% reduction in revenue. Scott noted the EPA still lists glyphosate as a safe product and the Yarmouth courses are in compliance with 'zone 2' state EPA regulations limiting chemical percolation to the top 3" of soil.

- 5) In the prior fiscal year, there was a slight uptick in the number of requests for annual fee refunds. Review of the policies of other Cape municipal courses shows all other towns either do not grant any refunds or limit refunds for documented medical conditions. The Golf Department plans to revise its refund policy to be more in line with other towns, specifically eliminating reference to 'other mitigating circumstances' which is subjective.
- 6) For 2020, annual fees will be the fees voted of the Spring 2019 Town Meeting. Members who sign up for the annual 'Links' program may be granted the option to upgrade their membership to programs which provide access to all courses. Guidelines for suspension of membership privileges are also scheduled to be reviewed in upcoming weeks.
- 7) Acting Director Gilmore provided MUNIS financial reports for the first two months of the fiscal year. In summary, daily fee play and corresponding revenue was up compared to last year in part to the excellent weather conditions in July and August. There was a brief discussion about the methodology for internal cost allocation for general services provided by the town for the golf enterprise as well the methodology for allocation of legacy benefit costs. Regarding the NGF report, Acting Director Gilmore indicated the preliminary report should be available by mid-October, followed by a formal presentation to the Board of Selectman.
- 8) Chairperson Deckel provided copies of an email send by an annual fee member regarding Bass River course playability and club house appearance. Information about each issue was provided so a formal response could be sent from the GEC (see attached).
- 9) The Yarmouth Golf website has been enhanced so GEC materials can be posted (contacts, agendas, minutes) making it easier for local golfers to be informed about GEC activity.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Minutes Approved Nov 18, 2019