

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

GOLF SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on Monday, April 25, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Councilors Rivers and Merritt, Jon Colman, Abraham Ford and Ciaran Carr

Also present were: David Melesko, Director of Leisure Services and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

Absent were: Councilor Seldon, Byron Lester, Brad Klein, Mark Mansur and Ryan Phelps

Guests: Dollie Hunt and Mark Jacobs

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. **Alex Whitney, 117 Duncaster Road,** stated that she has been a resident in Bloomfield for 15 years. Her son, Grayson, age 12 years old would like to play golf at Wintonbury Hills Golf Course for a reduced fee. Mrs. Whitney mentioned the junior golf initiative at Carmen Arace Middle School and stated that she cannot afford to pay for her son to play golf. She stated that the cost for him to play and have a lesson per week is approximately \$450.00 per month.

Mrs. Whitney requested this subcommittee to expand this juniors program to all youth in town, instead of just for students attending Bloomfield Public Schools. She stated that this decision is discriminatory against her son to not allow him to participate in the juniors program.

The subcommittee explained that the Juniors Program at Carmen Arace Middle School was designed to be a feeder program to the Bloomfield High School Golf Team. The request was denied to an exception for Mrs. Whitney's son.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilor Rivers, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of March 28, 2016.

STATUS OF PROPERTY

Mr. Ciaran Carr, General Manager of Wintonbury Hills Golf Course gave a brief review for the month of March 2016. The course is on budget and opened earlier during the month of March. At the end of February 2016, the operating cash reserve was approximately \$193,000. The course is well ahead against prior year.

The course opened on March 12, 2016, which is the earliest open in the 7th season. Pass holder renewal sales were solicited early in the season for approximately \$40,000.

The Tap Inn Restaurant will host a Spring Wine dinner on May 7, 2016.

There was \$6,000 in food and beverage sales, \$79,000 increase in budget over prior year (March) and \$49,000 ahead of budgeted Net Ordinary Income (NOI).

Marketing

Management created a membership calendar for events that was sent to all pass holders.

The Mayor's Annual Brunch will be held June 26, 2016 from 2 -5 p.m.

The Dan Novarr – Four Ball Tournament is a season long event sponsored by the Wintonbury Men's Golf Association. Details regarding this association are available at the Management office.

Course Maintenance

Mr. Carr presented an update regarding the Golf Range. All bids were approved and accepted to install a new driving range mat of approximately 10 feet long with additional tee ground in concrete areas.

On April 25, 2016, construction began for replacement. Golfers will be able to utilize the grass area for 7-10 days while the range is under construction.

Overall, the golf course is in phenomenal shape. The net promoter score was a 5 and to date 57 responses have been received with scores of 10.

Mr. Carr also reported that management added a double cooler, in the amount of \$2500 between Holes #3 and #12 for additional access to water during play.

Management has proposed to replace 6 maintenance utility vehicles and 1 beverage cart for 5 year lease, renewable after 4 years.

It was decided that Management would purchase the 6 utility vehicles, utilizing the current service staff for maintenance use mechanic and lease the beverage cart.

It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Rivers and voted unanimously to purchase six utility vehicles and lease one beverage cart.

Mr. Mark Jacobs suggested to give her a solution, instead of an agreement.

Mr. Carr stated that he has worked with this resident on numerous issues and tried to offer a solution.

Mr. David Melesko, Director of Leisure Services made a suggestion to establish clear rules and guidelines at the golf course. These rules can be posted in detail on the website as a template tab for policy and procedures.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Rivers, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 p.m.