

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

GOLF SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on **Monday, June 23, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.** in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Councilors Rivers and Seldon, Jon Colman, Mark Jacobs, Ciaran Carr

Also present were: Philip K. Schenck, Town Manager, Dave Melesko and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

Absent was: Councilor Merritt, Brad Klein, Jerry Long

Guest(s): Bill Starkie and Robert Berman

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Councilor Rivers, seconded by Councilor Seldon and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of May 27, 2014 and June 9, 2014.

Status of Property

Mr. Ciaran Carr, General Manager of **Wintonbury Hills Golf Course** presented the monthly report of status updates for May 2014 to the committee. It was reported that the month of May was great with revenue in pass holder sales and rounds played.

- There were over 200 rounds up from prior year
- There is approximately \$267,000 in the Operating Account. Management is expected to return approximately \$50,000 back to the town the end of the fiscal year. The Net Ordinary Income was \$99,000 ahead of budget, a \$90,000 improvement over prior year.

In outing sales, management informed the committee of a scheduling conflict in outings for August 11, 2014. United Way – UTC is scheduled the same day as the World's Largest Outing – Wounded Warriors. It was noted that only \$10.00 will go to the charity. However, Wintonbury Hills could possibly donate an additional \$20.00 or golfers can donate on their own. The

consensus of the committee was to postpone the Wounded Warriors Event until the next day August 12, 2014.

Discussion regarding details of the Novarr Golf Tournament

It was moved by Councilor Seldon, seconded by Councilor Rivers and voted unanimously to approve the cost of \$65.00 for the Novarr Golf Tournament.

Discussion regarding the Definition of Tournament Play

The committee ensued in a discussion re: resident rates available for outings. Mr. Ciaran Carr, General Manager of Wintonbury Hills Golf Course presented several examples of outing contracts. What constitutes an event or an outing? 20 golfers or more to sign a contract

- Proof of residency required in all documentation
- May change revenue stream for the Town of Bloomfield

Mr. Mark Jacobs stated his opinion regarding residents should not pay more than the resident rate regardless of the type of event.

Mr. Jon Colman stated that this policy would put the responsibility onto the outing organizers to manage. Management should have the discretion to compromise in smaller event. For non-food outing – golf (green fees) only – reserving block of tee times, management should recognize the residency rate and proof required.

It was moved by Councilor Seldon, seconded by Councilor Rivers and voted unanimously to endorse and approve residency rates for golf only outings and special (charitable) events should remain the contracted outing rate.

Mr. Philip Schenck, Jr. inquired about how many residents play during a tournament, can possibly use as a marketing tool. Only approximately 3-5% of residents play the course.

Status of Food and Beverage Service

The restaurant continues to do well in revenues and remains status quo.

Maintenance Issues

Mr. Carr presented some e-mail communications from weekday pass holders making complaints about the thickness of the rough and no fringe or additional cuts adjacent to the fairways. It was noted that Hole #3 should be changed, however no course changes are permitted without the agreement and approval of Mr. Pete Dye, course designer.

Other Business

Mr. Carr met with the Bloomfield Board of Education regarding the SNAG Golf Program. The Board of Education expressed their overall support to create a junior golf team with Wintonbury Hills Golf Course. Students must be Bloomfield residents, open to female and male players in middle school, the Feeder program.

Team tryouts will begin in the 2014/2015 spring and fall seasons. Management will sponsor 10 juniors for the program. These students will receive summer membership passes, mentors and involvement with the First Tee program. The Men's Club discussed the possibility of developing a scholarship program.

An official proposal will be drafted for approval by the Board detailing instruction schedule and equipment.

Councilor Seldon expressed concerns about Bloomfield residents and attracting youth who do not attend Bloomfield High School.

Mr. Dave Melesko, Director of Leisure Services reported no progress for the proposed Cell Town inquiry. In addition, outside vendors were contacted for crack sealing areas and cost estimates. The town engineer has marked all areas of concern for this project.

Adjournment

It was moved by Councilor Rivers, seconded by Councilor Seldon and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.