

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

GOLF SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on Monday, August 22, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

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

Also present were: Councilor Neuwirth, Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager, David Melesko, Director of Leisure Services, and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

Absent were: Councilors Seldon and Merritt, Abraham Ford, Byron Lester, Ryan Phelps, Brad Klein

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. There was no official quorum present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. **Hannah Roditi, 12 Beacon Hill Drive**, requested a status update of the walking trail proposal. On July 13, 2016, a group of interested individuals walked around the proposed trail. She stated that a volunteer group is willing to create the trail if needed. She also suggested involving the Department of Public Works for assistance with heavy equipment labor. Ms. Roditi would like a target date for implementation of this trail by Fall 2016.

Councilor Rivers stated that this is not a task for the golf course subcommittee to undertake or golf management. He further stated that the proposed walking trail is outside of golf course itself and volunteers would be needed to coordinate and implement this project.

Councilor Rivers stated that the golf subcommittee will be a platform to receive and distribute information.

Ms. Roditi requested to a clear timeframe for implementation and completion of this project.

Mr. David Melesko, Director of Leisure Services and staff liaison to this subcommittee stated that a meeting of the Connectivity Committee will be held on August 31, 2016, to discuss and recommend options for the proposed walking trail. The Connectivity Committee is an ad hoc charged with reviewing and recommending connections between all town parks, trails and recreational venues.

Mr. Melesko also stated that the Wintonbury Land Trust would be a great resource in obtaining possible easements or agreements of private land owners. In addition, monthly updates will be provided to the golf subcommittee.

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager stated that there is no money budgeted for this walking trail in the new FY 2016/2017. He also stated that the Conservation Energy and Environment Committee (CEEC) is the lead on connectivity development. The discussion of a proposed walking trail is in the initial planning stages, in providing resources for these efforts, in kind services provided by Public Works, etc. In addition, he briefly explained the budgetary process and capital improvement budget requests.

2. **Donna Landerman, 6 Rundelane** would like to work together in efforts of building a walking trail around Wintonbury Hills Golf Course. She also requested a letter of support from the golf subcommittee and golf management for walking trails at golf course.

Mr. Schenck, Jr. stated that the Connectivity Committee will analyze, review and prioritize this project along with the Master Parks Plan. In addition, these recommendations will be presented to the golf subcommittee for acceptance. This committee will also review the pace of play to not impede on golf course activities.

Mr. Melesko presented the proposed map for walking trail. The entire trail is on private property. The Connectivity Committee will also discuss easements, priorities and capital budget funding at August 31st meeting. The town's insurance providers would have concerns with possible liability issues.

Ms. Roditi requested a solid commitment from the golf subcommittee members over the next 30 days.

3. **Michael Trueman, 7 South Barn Hill Road**, questioned the appropriateness of the golf subcommittee in approving the walking trail if it is not on the golf course. He also suggested increasing the fine for noise infractions. Mr. Trueman also inquired about how many individuals receive injuries at the golf course. There is a peripheral proximity to safety issues per the USGA.

Mr. Schenck also stated that trail acquisition is on private property. There may be issues with timing and expectations of what to create are major factors for this project.

Mr. Mansur, Course Superintendent expressed his opinion regarding safety concerns and private property owners.

4. **Mark Lovejoy, 156 Terry Plains Road**, expressed issues with the Tap Inn Restaurant. He stated that there are no posted hours of operation listed on the door. It was noted that there have been some minor staffing issues and change in personnel.

Mr. Ciaran Carr read a letter from Mr. Bradley Klein about turf conditions, economics and competition of local area golf courses.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was no quorum present for approval of minutes.

STATUS OF PROPERTY

Mr. Ciaran Carr, General Manager of Wintonbury Hills Golf Course did not present any updates regarding the course due to no official quorum. The next meeting will be held on September 26, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.