

Minutes: Golf Course Committee Meeting (APPROVED 2/9/23)

12 January 2023

Onsite Town House, McAuliffe Hearing Room + remote via Zoom; + YouTube

Present:

- Committee: Tony Schoener, Ira Schild, Bill Davis, Nick Kolivas
  - Others: John Allen (New England Golf management), Dick Cruciani (New England Golf), Lynne McKay (resident, Women's League), Sam Stivers (Select Board)
- I. Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM.
  - II. Minutes for December 15, 2022, committee meeting reviewed and approved unanimously.
  - III. Ongoing activity and progress reports:
    - a. Offseason use of golf course property – plan to continue conversation with Recreation
    - b. Marketing – Mr. Schild to draft and share for review an article for MySouthborough for early spring publication. Mr. Schoener to request space and moderation capability for a golf course-related spot in the revised Town website.
    - c. Paving of driveway and parking area – Mr. Stivers indicated that the Town has awarded a paving contract which does include an item for the golf course driveway and parking lot, anticipated to begin in Spring of 2023, but details unknown. Mr. Schoener will follow up with Town Administrator Purple. Mr. Schoener will also discuss with Superintendent of Schools re: possible use of adjacent school parking facility for overflow capacity when school not in session (i.e., during summer vacation).
    - d. Irrigation – Mr. Schoener will converse with Andrew Mills (CPC) re: the potential for funding assistance for irrigation; Mr. Stivers suggested a possibility of CPC benefitting by achieving a larger match from State funds if course irrigation is denoted as “appropriate use” and urged committee members to support CPC efforts in this regard.
    - e. Tee box adjustments – Mr. Allen requested status of bids for this approved work. Committee to check with Mr. Purple.
  - IV. There was a brief discussion of the possibility of increasing greens fees. Mr. Allen indicated that the management company recommends study of and alignment to comparable facilities in the area, and that approval by the Town would be needed. Mr. Schild suggested that a greens fee increase would be most readily accepted by consumers if aligned to perceived course improvements, such as irrigation.
  - V. Next meeting is planned as in-person (Town House), plus remote on the morning of Thursday 9 February 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 AM, with unanimous approval.