

**GOLF COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2013**

The Golf Commission held their Regular Meeting on Wednesday, January 9, 2013 at the Orchards Golf Course, in the clubhouse. Chairman Austin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Healey asked the Commission observe a moment of silence to remember the late Commissioner Robert “Bob” Hardiman who passed away in December.

I. Roll Call

Commission Members Present

R. Austin
G. Amato, Jr.
M. Blake
R. Peruzzi
W. Healey
D. Worroll

Also Present

J. Smith, Tournament Turf Care
J. Fabrizio, Tournament Turf Care
V. Fabrizio
J. Newlan, Orchards Golf Course

II. Election of Officers

Commissioner Healey stated he would recommend the slate of officers remain the same from last year.

Commissioners’ Healey and Peruzzi made and seconded a motion to nominate Richard Austin as Chairman, George J. Amato, Jr., as Vice Chairman.

Hearing no other nominations, nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman were closed with the secretary casting one vote.

Motion carried unanimously.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Consideration of Minutes

Commissioners’ Amato and Blake made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 14, 2012 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Austin noted no meeting was held in December. He reported the course was open for part of December. Chairman Austin reported he paid the last quarter water bill and noted they are under budget at this point. He stated he will be paying a bill to the State of Connecticut in the amount of \$250.00 for the golf course, which is a permit fee. He stated it is something new this year.

Mr. Fabrizio explained it is an assessment on all golf courses.

Chairman Austin wished everyone a Happy New Year. He also expressed condolences to the family of Bob Hardiman and acknowledged Bob as a founding member of the Golf Course Commission, a great guy who would be missed.

VI. Committee Reports

a) Planning Committee – Commissioner Healey stated he would defer his report to Executive Session later in the agenda.

b) Financial Advisor – Commissioner Worroll reported the amounts in the accounts as of December 13, 2012. He also reported the Fund 18 balance as \$85,146.

VII. Unfinished Business

b) Update – Addition of golf carts – Commissioner Worroll reported the rental of golf carts is going quite well. He stated the feeling in the industry is that carts be bought in pairs. He stated it would be his recommendation to the Commission that two additional carts be purchased, but the question will be where to store them.

Mr. J. Smith agreed storage would be difficult. He also stated he would be willing to provide the Commission with the name of another vendor.

VIII. Management's Report (Tournament Turf Care, LLC)

Mr. J. Smith reported that Superintendent Kevin Williams has moved back to Vermont. He stated they have hired Tim Maher from National Golf Links in Long Island. Mr. Smith stated he has been to the course a few times and has met with Mr. Newlan and some of the other staff members. He stated it was very sad to see Kevin leave and that he would be a tough act to file, but that Tim is certainly the right fit.

Mr. Smith also spoke regarding tree work on the course. He stated he did not want to have any heavy equipment on the course at this point.

Chairman Austin stated they have someone who has done work for them and is familiar with the course. He stated he would get a number from him for the tree behind #1.

Mr. Smith stated it was important that management be aware when they would be coming.

Commissioner Healey asked about the sale of gift certificates during the holiday.

Mr. Smith stated they were slow at the beginning but picked up somewhat, but overall sales were down from last year.

Commissioner Healey also asked about the radios.

Mr. Newlan stated they were waiting for after the first of the year and that they have someone from the valley that would be doing the work.

IX. New Business

a) Report on Rounds - Mrs. Fabrizio distributed handouts which provided a complete breakdown of rounds played at the course for the months of November and December 2012 as well as cart rentals. The total rounds played in November was 1,381 and in December 633. Cart rental for November was 34 and pull carts 72 and December 12 rentals and 41 pull carts. A brief discussion ensued.

Chairman Austin stated overall it was a very good year and thanked Mr. Smith and Mr. Fabrizio.

b) Dedication – Robert Hardiman – Commissioner Amato stated it would be his recommendation that this Commission do something in Mr. Hardiman’s name at the course. He stated Mr. Hardiman was an original member of this Commission, starting back in 1997. He stated he would propose either a dedicated spot such as a flower bed or perhaps planting a tree with some type of signage.

Commissioner Worroll spoke of the Recreation Department’s bench dedication program.

Commissioner Healey suggested Commissioner Amato bring a proposal back to the Commission next month.

X. Executive Session

Commissioners’ Amato and Peruzzi made and seconded a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss and update on the possible property acquisition.

Chairman Austin stated only the full Board would be in Executive Session

Motion carried unanimously. The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 5:53 p.m.

Chairman Austin reconvened the Board in public session at 6:03 p.m.

Commissioners’ Healey and Amato made and seconded a motion that the Commission hire James Swift as a consultant to develop a plan to expand the course, at a fee not to exceed \$3,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business, Commissioners' Amato and Blake made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Golf Commission will be held February 13, 2013 at the **Orchards Golf Course** in the clubhouse, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber
Recording Secretary