

MINUTES

Beaver Meadow Golf Advisory Committee Meeting November 18, 2021

In Attendance: Nathan Fennessy, Roger Jobin, Bob Norton, Bob Whatmough, Fran Hunt, Jennifer Kretovic, Linda Mattlage, Phil Davis, Pat Lanman, and Brian LeBrun.

Absent: Chris Mulleavey and Dick Holden.

- 1) **Public Input:** Member of the public Charles Randall was in attendance but did not provide any input.
- 2) **Approval of October Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the October 14, 2021 meeting. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.
- 3) **Pro Shop Operations:**
 - October was a good month with rounds and revenue being up. Revenue was up about \$9,000 over last October.
 - November rounds were not as successful as last year due to inclement weather. There were many frost delays in early November.
 - Memberships have grown to 396 from 383 last month.
 - Pro Shop sales are up and special orders are still trickling in. Gross sales for the period of July 1, 2021 to date are approximately \$85,000, which is \$10,000 over last year.
 - Staff are preparing for the simulator season. Two new projectors are being installed and a new screen has been ordered for the function room. To date, 76 hours of simulator usage have already been booked for this season which puts us at 65% capacity.

Discussion:

- Roger Jobin asked if we had recovered from the loss of revenue due to the rainy July we had. Phil indicated that we have. Brian LeBrun indicated that we had a net gain of \$240,000 in FY 2021, in addition to the \$140,000 of revenue we deferred to FY 2022.
- Jennifer Kretovic asked if driving range revenue was impacted due to the credit card machine not working. Phil indicated that it was definitely a convenience issue and that revenue could probably be better if the credit card machine was working. Staff will continue to work on resolving the problem with the machine.
- Nathan Fennessy asked what the total number of rounds was this year. Phil indicated that rounds are up 5% over last year, with 24,657 rounds this year.
- Nathan also asked about outings, specifically if we're staying with the same ones as this year, or if there are any new groups being scheduled. Phil responded that we'll probably be staying right where we are. Phil further stated that, during the off season, the committee will need to review our pricing for outings.

- 4) **Course Update:**
- Staff are transitioning to winter operations – cleaning up leaves, blowing out the irrigation system, and winterizing and conducting maintenance on equipment.
 - The course received a new grinder, which will provide a significant amount of time savings.
- 5) **Tree Project Walk Through with Citizens:** On Saturday, December 4th, at 10:00 AM, there will be a public meeting at the course to provide information about the tree project and to give the public a tour of the tree area in question. City Planner Beth Fenstermacher will be in attendance, as well as representatives from NH Fish & Game, who are interested in participating in the project and will be able to provide a US National Forest perspective.

Jennifer Kretovic noted that there has been a lot of discussion on the West Concord Community Facebook page regarding the tree project. She indicated that there are three hot topics of discussion: 1) save the trees; 2) cutting down the trees will create less shade on the course which will shorten the cross country skiing season; and 3) turn the back 9 into housing.

Brian LeBrun acknowledged that everyone may not be happy about the project, but indicated that we are working with the City Forester, our Planning Division, and the State to ensure the best project possible. He noted that we are being very selective about which trees are coming down.

Jennifer Kretovic stated that there is a lot of wildlife in the forested areas of the course and proper maintenance is critical. Phil indicated that he learned of a term from Fish & Game representatives when they visited the course, and that is the term “wildlife openings.” Apparently clearing the trees in the right way creates wildlife openings. Fish & Game will be providing more information about this prior to the public meeting on 12/4.

- 6) **Other:** The parking of vehicles for winter ice skating was discussed. Committee members expressed their concerns with vehicles traveling across the 9th fairway to get to the pond and the damage it causes. The consensus of the committee was to no longer allow parking next to the pond. Patrons will not be allowed to cross the fairway with vehicles and will have to park in designated parking areas. Parking areas and the walking path to the pond will be clearly marked, and Parks and Recreation will place benches and/or picnic tables next to the pond for patrons to use.
- 7) **Adjournment:** A motion was made and seconded, and the meeting was adjourned on a unanimous voice vote.