

**Wicomico Shores Golf Course Advisory Board**  
**MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, October 19, 2016**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bob Richardson, Chairperson; Richard Buckler, Bob Collier, Peter Delman, and David Phalen.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jenny Russell and Jerry Slagle.

**R&P STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT:** Brian Loewe, Director; Nick Isom, Golf Course Manager; and Jim Farren; Golf Course Superintendent, St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Wicomico Shores Golf Course (WSGC) Advisory Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Wicomico Shores Golf Course Clubhouse.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Peter Delman moved, seconded by Bob Collier, to approve the minutes of August 31, 2016; motion carried with all in favor.**

### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW GOLF COURSE MANAGER**

Chairperson Bob Richardson introduced Nick Isom, new Golf Course Manager to the Board.

### **SUPERINTENDANT'S REPORT**

Jim Farren provided a report from the Grounds and Greens Division. Items included:

- Groundskeeper I position was filled.
- Cart paths were improved with #57 stone; repairs were made to #8 sand trap.
- Staff plans several projects - 20 tree stumps need to be removed; two trees need to be removed from #13 fairway area; and ten loads of topsoil will be placed to cover a low area.
- Mr. Farren is planning on purchasing a greens mower this fiscal year as budgeted; may wait until next fiscal year to purchase a surrounds mower. These would be purchased via exempt financing.

### **WEEKEND TEE TIME & RIDE ALONGS**

Nick Isom reported on the following items:

- Weekend tee times – there is a seven day window for booking tee times for pass holders.
- Electronic tee sheet is something to look into for the future. Manager is researching software and no cost options through marketing firms.
- Ride Alongs – full cart fee is paid and waiver signed in order to ride along. The group discussed the pros and cons of charging the full cart fee for ride alongs. **Bob Collier moved to lower the ride along fee to \$5; he withdrew the motion. Pete Delman moved, seconded by Bob Collier, to track the number of ride alongs until the next WSGC Advisory Board meeting of January 18, 2017 (includes all requests to ride along and walk along, paid or declined); motion carried with all in favor.**

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Brian Loewe, Director, Department of Recreation and Parks provided a financial report to the Board (July through September). Handouts provided included: 1) Year-to-Date Rounds of Golf, Revenue and Expense Comparison FY2017 Compared to FY2016; and 2) WSGC Financial Summary and Rounds of Golf. NICK can you verify. Currently, rounds are down from this time last year; this is primarily due to inclement weather (very hot summer, then over twelve inches of rain in September). Restaurant was fairly busy with outings and events. Expenses are down, but so are revenues. A new golf cart lease will need to be addressed in FY2018. Staff will look into a new lease and refurbishment of existing fleet; however, refurbishment of the fleet was done previously.

## SCORE CARD/TEE MARKERS

Bob Richardson asked about the status of tee markers. Mr. Isom said they are on order; the company will also print new score cards. This is at no cost to the course due to sale of sponsorship ads.

Mr. Isom noted that the red tees have now been rated for the men. Any male golfer wishing to play from the red tees now will have a valid score for handicap purposes. He also wants to introduce Junior tees.

## PRIORITY SYSTEM FOR FUTURE EXPENDITURES

Board members agreed that priorities, other than normal operating costs, should be established for expenditures. Priorities from golfers, the Board, the Manager and Superintendent should be molded into one document. The Director, Manager and Superintendent will provide the Board with a list of planned future expenditures that enhance golf course operations and increases income.

## OTHER BUSINESS

- **Annual Report** – Mr. Richardson suggested that annual report be drafted via the same process as last year. A draft will be provided for the Board at the next meeting.
- **Election of Officers** – should be held during the January meeting.

## SCHEDULING THE NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the WSGC Advisory Board will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2016.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 P.M.

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Kathy Bailey, Recorder (from tape recording)

Minutes approved by the WSGC Advisory Board on January 18, 2017.