

**Wicomico Shores Golf Course Advisory Board
MINUTES
Wednesday, April 20, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Richardson, Chairperson; Jenny Russell, Vice-Chairperson; Richard Buckler, Bob Collier, Pete Delman, David Phalen and Jerry Slagle.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

R&P STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT: Brian Loewe, Director; Patty Meyers, 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

Bob Collier moved, seconded by Jenny Russell, to approve the minutes of January 20, 2016 with one correction (under Financial Report – add clarification to say: The greens and grounds budget category reflects....); motion carried with all in favor.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Patty Meyers referred to the handouts sent to Board members (through the end of March): 1) Projected Year-to-Date Rounds of Golf, Revenue and Expense Comparison FY2016 Compared to FY2015; and 2) Year-to-Date Rounds of Golf, Revenue and Expense Comparison FY2016 Compared to FY2015. Ms. Meyers noted that rounds are up from this time last year, due to good weather. Some of this is a result of the budgetary changes made during last year's budget process. The full impact of the changes will be realized when the FY2016 fiscal year is complete. Season pass revenue is up; there are 20 new pass holders to date.

SUPERINTENDANT'S REPORT

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

- Greens are doing well and Bermuda grasses came in early; however, recent cool weather has set the fairways back a bit.
- An irrigation issue is being addressed; some "tip burn" has been experienced.
- Sand traps – can use additional sand as funding allows. Staff will keep them raked as much as they are able.
- Expressed concern over difficulty in finding seasonal help.

Mr. Delman asked about the timing for purchasing the greens and surround mowers in FY2017 as stated in the January minutes (the five year plan states FY19 and 20). These were moved up due to current needs of the course and are anticipated to be financed through cost-efficient, exempt financing.

Mr. Delman asked if "we could put red markers at the 100 yard marker at the center of the fairway." Mr. Farren stated that staff would rather not do that, but he will look into this request.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairperson Richardson and the Board thanked Ms. Meyers for her years of service and wished her a happy retirement.

Mr. Delman stated that he believes the WSGC Advisory Board should send a letter to the CSMC that the Golf Course Manager position should be advertised as a contract position, with a considerable lower salary, to possibly save some money to use for grounds maintenance. Director Brian Loewe stated he will discuss this with the Human Resources Department and will follow-up with the Board.

SCHEDULING THE NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the WSGC Advisory Board will be held on Wednesday, July 20, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 P.M.

Kathy Bailey, Recorder (from tape recording)