

# The Town of Barnstable Office of Community Services

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### GOLF COMMITTEE September 10th, 2019 5:30 PM Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds Golf Course Minutes: APPROVED

Roll Call:RICHARD ALIBERTIPresentGEOFFREY CONVERSEAbsentJOHN COOKSONPresentRON MATROSPresentKEITH HOCHSTEINPresentSUSANNE CONLEYPresent

### ALSO PRESENT: CHRIS WHITE, ANDY CLYBURN, JOHN FLORES

# Chair Hochstein reads statement in accordance with MGL Ch. 30.A.S.20 regarding public taping at meetings- No one responds as taping the meeting

### Act on the Minutes of the August 13, 2019 Meeting Motion duly made by Richard Aliberti to approve the minutes of the August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Seconded by John Cookson VOTE: All in favor

Election of Vice Chairman;

Chair Hochstein requests volunteers or nominations for Vice Chair- Richard Aliberti nominated Ron Matros, seconded by John Cookson. Chair Hochstein asks for a vote from the Committee, all committee members vote yes for Ron Matros as Vice Chair.

Public Comments- NONE

Director of Golf Report- Chris reads a report from Bruce

-Continuing to work on a new land management plan for the golf courses for the Town. The emphasis will be on the different ways we manage the facilities as it pertains to the protection of the Town's water resources. Each course will be looked at differently based on its unique location to the water sources. The Barnstable Fire District Water Department will be sampling water from the monitoring well down gradient of Hyannis Golf Course. Testing has been ongoing for nutrients but we added a list of commonly used pesticides to be screened for to develop a baseline. Testing will be regular moving forward. The FY 2021 budget calendar has been distributed and the Golf Division has already begun compiling information relative to estimating the increased costs. We are estimating needs going forward under the new turf management program and each course will need over \$125k to cover the necessary increases in maintaining the facilities. This includes Operating expenses and labor costs, each course will also need new equipment which could add another \$130k in debt service to each course over a 5 year plan.

-2020 Rate and Fee Initial Discussion; No proposal will be made tonight; this is the first step in the process to bring forward ideas. A meeting will be held with golf management staff, community services director and the finance director to review all suggestions and look at all our options. A formal presentation will be made at the October 8<sup>th</sup> golf committee

meeting. If not voted on at that meeting then another special meeting will need to be held before the proposal needs to be submitted by October 23<sup>rd</sup>. A public hearing will be conducted by the Town Manager on November 12<sup>th</sup>. Susanne asked Chris about the role the committee plays in deciding the rates. Chris explained how it works and how we send a recommendation letter from the committee to the Town Manager.

Initial Discussion of 2020 Rates and Fees -

Chair Hochstein opened the floor to discuss rates for the 2020 year.

Richard Aliberti asked what the current rate is, Chris currently it is \$1070 for the annual adult pass. Keith discussed a potential veteran rate, and the other rates we offer (nonresident, young adult, junior).

John Cookson referred to Dr. Rossi's visit and how we could expect rounds to go down 10-20% because of the changes. During the last visit with Dr.Rossi, the other superintendents that attended from other courses on the Cape mentioned that their rounds are up and the word is out that our courses are undergoing some changes and rounds are going elsewhere. Topic discussed by committee. Ron echoed John's concerns about having to potentially raise fees and not know what the conditions of the courses are going to be like next year. Susanne questioned the financing at the courses and suggested restructuring the debt so we can invest in the facilities and get the bunkers, cart paths and irrigation fixed. Is the town ready to make an investment and then we can market our facilities and get those rounds back.

Ron suggested a potential rate classification for Hyannis only. Topic discussed

John referenced the greens fees days that were held this year and having more of those days to generate revenue Keith suggested it could be slippery slope if we raise fees again and conditions go down.

Richard Aliberti asked about the financial figures and if we are making money or not.

Andy Clyburn- Hyannis already had many needs for capital improvements for cart paths, bunkers and irrigation before the turf management situation. We do have an approved CIP for the cart paths and we need to find a way to get those funds. We need to look at the fact that the annual pass holders take 70% of the tee times and only generate 30% of the revenue. Susanne discussed investing in Hyannis Golf Course and the benefits it would bring. Ron agreed with Susanne and discussed the rounds and increasing cost to both public play and pass holders. Andy suggested more public tee times to generate revenues and take away pass holder times to get the 70/30 closer to 50/50. John Flores- Thanked the committee for volunteering and helping with this process. John agreed with looking at all the different fees charged in order to come up with a way to finance the facilities. Topic discussed by the committee Andy Clyburn suggested the fact that we need protect our assets in the Town of Barnstable Susanne and Ron discussed a tier system for passes.

### Director of Maintenance Report

Chris explained some of the new potential expenses going forward. We have looked at new seeders at each course and new spray machines that would help get the work done. Keith asked about the middle of the road spray rigs. Chris discussed Dr. Rossi's visit and how he felt the courses looked and they held up very well according to Dr. Rossi. Chris- both courses have been seeded in certain areas and they have been fertilized. The organic fertilizer we put down will help bring everything back. Please stay out of the roped off areas as much as you can.

Susanne mentioned the Cuda classic at Olde Barnstable and that it is open to everyone please sign.

Richard Aliberti asked Chris if David Donnellan could come to the next meeting to give a report on the first tee.

## MOTION TO ADJOURN duly made BY Ron Matros SECONDED Susanne Conley

Adjourn 6:55 PM Respectfully submitted Wayne R. Malcolm

> Public files are available for viewing during normal business hours \*\* Further detail may be obtained by viewing the video via Channel 18 on demand or at http://www.townofbarnstable.us/GolfCommittee \*\*