

**TOWN OF FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT
GOLF COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Via Teleconference
Fairfield, CT 06824

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: IN LIGHT OF COVID-19, AND
PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 7B, THE TOWN IS
CONDUCTED THIS MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE ONLY.**

- ✓ Agenda/minutes can be found here: <https://fairfieldct.org/content/10736/12226/default.aspx>
- ✓ A recording of this meeting can be found here: <https://fairfieldct.org/meetingrecordings>

DATE: Monday, May 10, 2021
TIME: 7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: K. Varian Chair, M. Feinstein, M. Herrington, L. Herron, C. Hogan, P. Secrist, P. Schulz

OTHERS PRESENT: A. Calabrese, B. Bigonette, P. Grace and members of the public.

Call Meeting to Order

K. Varian called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

K. Varian waived the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Act on Minutes: 4/19/21

Motion: P. Secrist made a motion to approve the minutes of 4/19/21 as written. P. Schulz seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

II. Staff Reports 1. Pro Manager Report

B. Bigonette said everything is going well. They are extremely busy and selling out tee times every day. His staff is still learning but doing very well. The credit card processing contract is done and now they are just waiting on equipment. They should receive the pin pads and go live in 10 days or by June 1st. He is still waiting for some stock of equipment for the Pro Shop. There was a discussion about tee times and the cancelation policy. It might need to be re-written for the ForeUp software that is being implemented this year.

2. Administration Report

A. Calabrese sent out the golf report for April. The rounds are off the charts, season passes are up. ID's are at 2400 and he would like to see that go up to 3500 by the end of June. They are going to exceed the budget numbers. Everything is looking great.

3. Superintendent Report

P. Grace said the course is looking great for early May. Hoping the temperatures will warm up. The Butterfly Garden came in. He is a little short staffed and gave A. Calabrese a list of equipment for the next budget year. His equipment is breaking down and the having an outside mechanic is not going well. His loader is down, and the mechanic cannot come for three weeks to fix it. He is keeping track of the overtime put in by his guys so they do not have to wait three weeks for the repair and he is recording of all his expenses to see if having an outside mechanic saves money.

III. Greens Committee Report

P. Schulz said the course looks terrific. The 4th, 6th and 9th tees all look great and she thanked P. Grace. M. Herrington agreed and told P. Grace he is doing a great job.

IV. Par 3 Committee Report

M. Feinstein said the Par 3 looks great too and the greens are nice. The course is in good shape and crowded. K. Varian wondered if anyone is using the driving range at Par 3. B. Bigonette said he uses it with his clinics and junior league, but there really isn't any revenue coming in. He does not think people know about it.

V. Old Business To hear and or act upon:

1. Clubhouse Building Update

The starter shed will be there in a couple of weeks, the additional lockers will be there July 1st. The fire pit will be installed within the next week. The bag rack should be there in the next couple of weeks as they were delayed. The Butterfly Garden is at the top of 18 by the patio. July is the start date for the additional golf carts. They have not run out of carts yet because they have had very little demand for single riders.

V. New Business: To hear and act upon:

K. Varian sent out a sketch of the Tucker Fund Garden. There will be two memorial benches there as well. They will be planting seeds and plants on Saturday. A landscape company will be donating labor. Craig Curley requested dedicating a memorial bench for Barry Powlishen.

Motion: M. Herrington made a motion to approve adding a memorial bench for Barry Powlishen. M. Feinstein seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Communications/Public Input - Emails pertaining to issues not already discussed will be addressed.

• **Frank Sahagian letter**

Mr. Sahagian sent a letter to the Fairfield Citizen and copied it to First Selectwoman Kupchick regarding pricing and the menu at Boca, which is the new restaurant at the clubhouse. K. Varian acknowledged that one of the owners, Yanni Taxiltaridis was on the call and invited him to give feedback. Mr. Taxiltaridis said he appreciated the comments both positive and negative. He listened and adjusted the menu to include sandwiches and pasta on the dinner menu. He tried some entrees that did not work out and they were taken off the menu. They are exceeding what they had expected so far. Restaurants have a 3-4 month growing period, so it is still happening for Boca. They have many calls for large

groups and are getting a lot of positive feedback as well. He is always available for anyone who would like to speak with him and he encouraged those who had comments to speak with him before sending letters or emails to the public. There was a discussion about golfers wanting to use the patio without having to purchase food, which was not allowed prior due to the state mandate for the Covid regulations. Now that he knows the first tee time is 7:00am, he will open the snack bar at 6:45am. He is hoping that with the warmer weather, the demand for the snack bar will increase in the morning. There was a discussion about the lunch menu and K. Varian asked about the Professional Lunch that is offered at the restaurant in Bridgeport for a flat cost of \$14 that includes soup/salad and an entrée. Y. Taxiltaridis will look into that. K. Varian said everything is going well and the food is great.

VIII. Adjourn

Motion: L. Herron made a motion to adjourn. M. Herrington seconded the motion.

Vote: The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien
Recording Secretary