

Bernards Township Golf Advisory Committee
Minutes –September 16, 2019 – 5:30 PM
Municipal Building, 1 Collyer Lane
APPROVED October 21, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER

M. Conley called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of 1975. The Committee saluted the flag and the roll was called.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Michael Conley
John Gunning (A5:38pm)
Joan Harris
Ana McCarthy
John Meany
Timothy O'Rourke (A6:31pm)
Peter Tobia

Members Absent:

Michael Conley, Jr.

Non-Members Present:

Jen Gander, Director
Kelly Kellaway, Recording Secretary
Carmen Misale, Course Operations Supervisor
Sean O'Grady, Assistant Director
Matt Sullivan, Shearon Environmental

Gregg and Michael Angelillo, 70 Manor Dr., Basking Ridge
Elliott Chartash, 41 Summit Dr. Basking Ridge
Steve Raff, 183 Riverside Dr, Basking Ridge
Dan Zugale, 28 Meadowview Rd, Basking Ridge

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- i. Motion was made by J. Meany to accept the August 5, 2019 Minutes and seconded by P. Tobia. All were in favor, motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Letter from James Schmelz regarding a refund of membership fees—The Golf Advisory Committee reviewed J. Schmelz letter and no action was taken. The refund policy as outlined in the 2019 Membership Handbook remains in effect.

4. REPORTS

A. Course Maintenance Report

- i. Conditions Update from Shearon Golf—Matt Sullivan
 - M. Sullivan stated that the greens are beginning to show signs of improvement since aeration on September 3rd. Will continue to over seed and tool aerate the worst areas and water as needed.
- ii. Update on Storm Drain Issue on Holes 2 & 3—Jen Gander
 - J. Gander reported that the VA is still investigating and have requested any available maps from the Somerset County Engineering Department. As of today there has been no further update from the VA. This is a difficult situation as it is federal property, with a storm sewer drain running from a county road. J. Gunning suggested we write letter to county to put them on notice as it is a potential road hazard. A suggestion was made to look at shortening the holes to have them partially open while we are working on a repair plan, instead of completely closed.
- ii. Course Condition Feedback from Members—Jen Gander
 - The Golf Advisory Committee members reviewed and discussed the recent course conditions reports submitted by members.

B. Director's Report—Jen Gander

- i. 2019 Membership and Revenue Update
 - J. Gander updated the Committee regarding the membership and revenue and mentioned we have sold a few prorated memberships recently.
- ii. 2019 Budget Update—Jen Gander
 - J. Gander updated the Committee regarding the budget and not much has changed since the August 5 meeting.

C. Operations Supervisor's Report

- i. Rounds Played
 - J. Gander reported that rounds for some months are up over last year.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. None

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Course Conditions Updates for Members

- The Committee discussed sending an email to members by the end of the week updating them on course conditions.

B. Initial Discussions of 2020 Fees, Budget and Policies

- J. Gander asked the Golf Advisory Committee Members to start thinking about ideas and bring to the October meeting. Gander will reach out to the VA to see if we could lease the Driving Range property and then we can sub lease it to NJ Golf Foundation.

C. Meeting Schedule—Add October 21 at 7:00pm, Town Hall

- The Golf Advisory Committee decided to add an additional meeting on October 21 at 7:00pm at Town Hall.

7. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS

A. J. Meany thanked A. McCarthy for her comments regarding his email about the history of the course.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. G. Angelillo is the board manager of the NJ Golf Foundation and his son Michael wanted to thank everyone for letting him and the PGA Jr. Golf Team utilize the course this season. Many of the parents joined the course due to the children playing on the team. He offered resources to assist with course operations as needed.

B. E. Chartash—Asked why we don't push water off the greens where it lays. M. Sullivan explained the type of greens we have on the course and why water tends to lay on the surface. M. Conley asked M. Sullivan from Shearon if we could roll or blow the water off. M. Sullivan said we can investigate for next year. J. Gunning mentioned that the water puddles on the edge of the putting green. M. Sullivan said they are scheduling repair, the pipe needs to be extended so the water does not back up and remain on the green.

C. D. Zugale—Works with the Ridge High School golf team and thanked everyone for allowing them to play the course. He came up with the Coakley 9 and Russo 9 play idea which was discussed at the last meeting. He also noted issues regarding water on the course and that the tee boxes are very dry and worn. Maybe a multi-year improvement project addressing the tees should be developed. D. Zugale also stated that one can't expect the Golf Advisory Committee to be on the course every day. Not normal to have one entire green out of commission and ruts on the course. J. Gander said that C. Miscale, Golf Manager, does weekly reports and sends them to her which get shared with Shearon. Conditions and required maintenance are monitored closely by staff.

D. S. Raff—Does not believe there is any sense of urgency from the committee. The course is a community resource. Having a 9-hole course and driving range in this location is an important resource for golf in general and good resource for people wanting to play.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by J. Gunning and seconded by P. Tobia. All in favor; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Kelly Kellaway
Recording Secretary