

To: NGCA Members
From: Barney Caulfield, Chairman NGCA
Re: Minutes of NGCA monthly meeting of June 15, 2016

Members Present

Bernard Caulfield
J.P. Mereen
Richard Podurgiel
Michael Driscoll
Richard Strouse
David DiBattista
Charles Whitty

Others Present

Bruce Morse, Superintendent
Mike Svab, Pro Manager
Bob Malouf, Member's Club

Call to Order

- Chairman Caulfield called the June 15, 2016 meeting of the Norwich Golf Course Authority to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

- A motion to accept the minutes of the May 18, 2016 meeting was made by Mr. DiBattista, seconded by Mr. Podurgiel and approved unanimously.

Financial Report

In the absence of Sandra Kuchta, Mr. Driscoll presented the financial report.

Revenues for the month of May 2016 were \$111,873.79 compared to budgeted revenues of \$146,854.32, \$34,980.53 under budgeted revenues and \$24,939.88 under May 2015 revenues.

Year to date revenues through May 2016 were \$518,121.75 compared to budgeted revenues of \$502,041.02, \$16,080.73 over budgeted revenues and \$27,291.83 over year to date May 2015 revenue.

Expenses for the month of May 2016 were \$138,780.90, compared to budgeted expenses of \$112,305.14, \$26,475.76 over budgeted expenses and \$12,431.42 over May 2015 expenses.

Year to date expenses for May 2016 were \$433,009.66 compared to budgeted expenses of \$422,453.13, \$10,556.53 over budgeted expenses and \$19,667.49 over year to date May 2015 expenses.

Expenses exceeded revenues in the month of May by \$26,907.11. Revenues exceeded expenses year to date through the end of May 2016 by \$85,112.09, compared to a budgeted figure of \$79,587.89, revenues exceeding budget projection by \$5,524.20.

The cash balance at the end of May 2016 was \$125,677.89.

Jason Bromley paid \$5,750 such that the lease is current through the end of June 2016.

A motion to accept the financial report was made by Mr. Mereen, seconded by Mr. DiBattista, and approved unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence presented.

CADDY SHACK

Mr. Svab noted that he had received a check for \$5,750 from the Caddy Shack restaurant to be deposited to the Golf Authority account on June 16, 2016. The lease is current through the end of June.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Chairman's Report**

No report presented.

- **Clubhouse Committee**

No report presented.

- **Greens Committee**

No report presented.

- **Planning Committee**

Mr. DiBattista suggested moving the white tee on the 4th hole from its present location to the other side of the cart path. He pointed out that the area he

suggested appears to receive more sunlight during the course of the day. Mr. Morse noted that the present white tee was not designed for the continuous use it now receives and described the process which would be followed to build a new tee, estimating the cost of the same to be in the \$5,000-7,500 range.

- **Marketing Committee**

No report presented.

- **Beautification Committee**

Mr. Podurgiel gave kudos to Mr. Morse, his staff and to Mr. Tom Slaga, a volunteer, who had done considerable work in the rose garden and flowered areas near the clubhouse. In Mr. Podurgiel's opinion the course looks quite good.

- **Budget Committee**

No report presented.

- **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Morse described areas of the course which had been cleared of plantings in anticipation of new plantings which are to be donated to the course. The left side of the blue tee on the 4th hole has been cleared as has the area to the right side of the 7th tee. A representative of the donor will be in next week to determine the appropriate plantings and layout.

Mr. DiBattista and Mr. Podurgiel requested that more work be done near the red tees on the 7th hole cart path as they have noted ruts there. Mr. Morse discussed the work which would need to be done. Mr. Morse reported that millings had been placed near the 7th tee to allow golf carts traveling from the 6th green to the 7th tee to cut the corner. He has also placed millings in the cart path near the 8th tee.

The water bill for the month of May is approximately \$4,300.

- **Pro Manager's Report**

Mr. Svab reported that the Golf Authority would receive a payment from GolfNow of \$3,920 for rounds arranged through the end of May. These are the afternoon slots and he noted that they are being filled. The arrangement appears satisfactory for both the Authority and GolfNow. He anticipates we may have revenues of \$20,000 from this arrangement.

The Norwich Free Academy has advised Mr. Svab that it would like to move its golf teams to the Norwich Golf Course for the competitive season. It also proposes, as part of this arrangement, that students who make the varsity team be allowed to play throughout the summer, in effect purchasing junior memberships or the equivalent for an identifiable number of members of the

team. There was general discussion of this proposal with a consensus understanding that such an arrangement, if reached with NFA, would be offered to any other area high school wishing to avail itself of the same. If accepted this arrangement would commence during the 2017 season.

A motion was made to permit Mr. Svab to pursue discussions with NFA to reach a satisfactory arrangement with NFA whereby its players would be permitted to compete as varsity teams at the Norwich Golf Course and play throughout the golf season subject to the same restrictions currently applicable to junior golfers, the arrangement limited as to the number of players able to avail themselves of the opportunity and at a price he thinks appropriate up to \$3,500 per team. This motion was made by Mr. DiBattista, seconded by Mr. Strouse and approved unanimously.

Mr. Svab advised that the golf clinic to be held this year will involve a number of NFA students and be referred to as the "Wildcat Clinic."

Mr. Svab reported that there was a problem with lights on the patio. All of the bulbs have been replaced with LED lights but the timer is either not working well or malfunctioning. The system will be changed from a timer to a switch in the Caddy Shack allowing the staff to turn the lights on and off as necessary.

New score cards will be used shortly to include a line for scores using the hybrid tees.

- **Member's Club**

Mr. Malouf noted that the course is in great shape but a number of members feel the rough is too thick or too long, particularly since there is no first cut. He asked about the arrangements for cutting the rough. Mr. Morse reported on the same and noted that the rough is cut in a rotation on three days in a week and will thin out a bit as the weather becomes hotter.

Mr. Malouf also requests that we consider allowing the rough to grow to the right side of the 8th fairway and the left side of the 13th fairway as shots landing in those areas often roll into heavier rough or into woods slowing the pace of play. Mr. Morse indicated he would be willing to let the rough grow in both of the requested areas but that it would be difficult to grow much grass on the 8th as there is no water in the area described.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Mereen reported on the logs and tests which were used in the course of water analysis. He noted that there were at least three areas that had reported good productions of water, the 3rd hole producing roughly 50,000 gallons a day, with the area near the top of the hill by the putting green, and a test hole on the 5th fairway both having promising production. He also presented a drawing showing a proposed 6,000,000 gallon pond behind the 11th green to the left of the 12th

fairway. This would involve approximately 1.95 acres and would average 9 1/2 feet deep. He proposed that he and Chairman Caulfield, as well as Mr. Strouse if available, meet with Gordon Binkhorst against to review these matters and to discuss the type of permitting which would be needed for such a project.

Adjournment

At motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:10 p.m. by Mr. DiBattista, seconded by Mr. Mereen, and approved unanimously.