



## Minutes: Golf Course Advisory Committee

March 13, 2023

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Golf Course Advisory Committee was held on March 13, 2023 at 8:30 AM with Craig Wetherbee presiding and with Chris Rain as recording secretary.

Committee Members: Craig Wetherbee, Mike Sweeney, Paul Suhrie, John Pinto, Mike Yesunas (on Zoom)

Township Staff: Township Supervisor Annette Atkinson (on Zoom), Pro Shop Manager Todd Brown, Maintenance Superintendent Bill Parr, Banquet Hall Coordinator Holly Dennis, Committee Liaison Chris Rain.

**Meeting called to order at 8:35 am by Craig Wetherbee.**

### Agenda

- A motion to accept the agenda as amended for the meeting was made by Mike Sweeney, seconded by John Pinto. Motion passed 5-0.

### Minutes

- A motion to accept the minutes from the February 2023 meeting was made John Pinto, seconded by Paul Suhrie. Motion passed 5-0.

### Whispering Pines—Holly Dennis

- Holly Dennis provided the committee with her regular report. There are 21 events booked so far for the year. There are others with unconfirmed dates at this time. We are on pace with last year.

### Grounds—Bill Parr

- Bill Parr reported that they are working on their equipment. Seasonal employees were back on Monday 3/6. The Township has received three resumes for the seasonal job openings, but two turned down the position and the third is unreachable. Annette Atkinson asked Bill Parr to schedule a time to meet about attracting applicants.
- Bill Parr reported that the course came through the winter ok. John Pinto asked whether we could sod the bare spots. Bill Parr stated he would talk to Mark Oney about it. Annette Atkinson also said she would speak to Mark Oney about it.
- Paul Suhrie asked whether we were having any trouble getting parts. Bill Parr said no.

### Pro Shop—Todd Brown

- Todd Brown stated that merchandise for the pro shop was arriving and members were signing up for the year. So far, it's past members, no new ones.
- Paul Suhrie asked how we were reaching out to people and whether we could do a mass email. Todd Brown stated that we had an email list through Golf Now and that he had a meeting with Golf Now about this coming up.
- Todd Brown reported that the three days we opened in February did see golfers. Wednesday 2/15 had 20. The other two days had one group each. Annette Atkinson asked what we charged. Todd Brown said \$29. John Pinto stated that the greens should have been cleaned up better for the three days we opened in February.

### **Financials—Bonnie Winters**

- Bonnie Winters was not present.
- Annette Atkinson reported that we are not open yet (aside from three days in February) so we currently show only expenses.

### **Marketing – Chris Rain**

- Chris Rain reported that marketing was starting. There are daily posts on Facebook. Flyers for the HOAs were provided to the committee for their review. Chris Rain also reported that activity on the website was increasing as we get closer to opening.

### **Old Business:**

- Annette Atkinson reported that the Board of Supervisors approved ads for the sale of the course. The sale is authorized to go out to bid this month, March 2023, and all received bids will be opened at a public meeting in June. John Pinto asked how the sale was being handled. Annette Atkinson responded that it's all one package: course and undeveloped land all in one. Paul Suhrie asked what is required of the bidders. Annette Atkinson responded that they had to meet the minimum bid price. Paul Suhrie asked whether any potential buyers will be required to maintain the property as a golf course. Annette Atkinson stated that any buyer will be bound by the restrictions in the deed.
- John Pinto asked whether the rates are set for the year. Todd Brown responded that they are.
- Paul Suhrie stated in regards to previous discussions about food options at the course, he has contact information for a food truck that he will pass along to Todd Brown. Mike Sweeney asked how insurance would be handled. Chris Rain stated that was a question that would need to be directed to Township Secretary Michele Clewell.
- Annette Atkinson asked why the previous attempt at providing food from Tom X Pub didn't work out. Mike Sweeney stated that it wasn't well promoted. He suggested that

golfers before 11am could place orders for food with staff and it could be ordered and picked up. Suggestions included Tom X Pub, Foodtown, and Wawa.

- Mike Sweeney asked about getting a hot dog roller. Todd Brown looked online and found inexpensive rollers and stated he would look into purchasing one.

**New business:**

- No new business.

**Public Comment:**

- None

**Meeting Adjourned**

- John Pinto made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07am, seconded by Mike Sweeney. Motion passed 5-0.

The next meeting will be held on April 10, 2023 at 8:30 am at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Rain  
Recording Secretary