

Mayor  
David Martin



Director of Operations  
Mark McGrath

Superintendent of Recreation  
Laurie Albano

Golf Course Superintendent  
Hidalgo Nagashima CGCS

Office of Operations  
E. Gaynor Brennan Municipal Golf Course  
451 Stillwater Road  
Stamford, CT 06902

APPROVED

Golf Commission  
Robert Tyska, Chairman  
Thomas Birkett  
Michael Briscoe  
Andrea Brantner  
Robert Judge

### **Minutes of the E. Gaynor Brennan Golf Commission; August 18, 2020**

**Present were:** R. Tyska, M. Briscoe, A. Brantner, R. Judge, T. Birkett

Absent: None

Staff: L. Albano, H. Nagashima, A. Aulenti, V. Levin, B. Ukperaj, M. Zody.

Public: J. Leydon, M. Somody

Meeting was held by zoom due to restrictions set in response to COVID-19. Chairman Tyska called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

#### **Adoption of the Agenda**

Mr. Briscoe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Ms. Brantner.

**Motion passed 4-0-1** with Mr. Birkett not yet present for vote.

#### **Reading of the Minutes**

Mr. Judge made a motion to approve the minutes for the July 21, 2020 meeting, seconded by Ms. Brantner. **Motion passed unanimous.**

#### **Comments from the Public**

Mrs. Somody present with no comment.

#### **Old Business**

Mr. Leydon and Mr. Zody presented the plan for patio expansion of the restaurant. Discussion followed as to the commission's role in reviewing terms of the lease. Ms. Brantner made a motion that the commission endorses the expansion of the patio under any lease terms agreed to between Mike Zody and the city. Mr. Birkett seconded. **Motion passed unanimous.**

## **Monthly Report**

Mr. Ukperaj gave a report on rounds in the month of July which saw an increase. Revenue was up for the month significantly. Fiscal and Calendar year updates were given to the commission. Mr. Ukperaj gave an update on the course's fiscal year 2020 revenue and expenses as well as an outlook on fiscal year 2021. The course was estimated to be \$75,000 in deficit and the city does not seem intent to cover this deficit. Mr. Tyska responded that amount would have been covered in revenue for the three weeks the course was ordered to close in April. Ms. Albano replied that she spoke to a member of administration who did say the Mayor has no intention on covering our deficit and reported the deficit as larger. Ms. Albano continued that the Mayor would like us to work our own way out of the deficit and the course will carry the debt. Mr. Ukperaj reminded the commission that the city this past year cut the rent payment of Sterling Farms Golf Course in half, by \$160,000 for the next five years, yet will not help E. Gaynor Brennan. Ms. Albano said the administration does not view the situations as comparable, as they cut Sterling's rent to have a lower interest rate to pay off debt. Mr. Ukperaj questioned why Sterling was not given the same direction to work their way out of it as Brennan was given, as it would be much easier for Sterling to raise rates. Mr. Tyska stated he is willing to speak to anyone in the administration concerning the issues E. Gaynor Brennan face.

## **Supt. of Greens Report**

Mr. Nagashima reported on golf course work and staff. Mr. Nagashima reported tees and collars were showing wear. Areas have been aerated and seeded. Aeration and seeding will continue and strategy for next year will be modified to combat the crabgrass in dry areas. Mr. Nagashima outlined upcoming work over the next couple of months and described damage from Hurricane Isaias. Mr. Briscoe inquired about leveling the tee boxes which Mr. Nagashima answered that with money in budget the plan is to level two tee boxes in the fall. Mr. Tyska asked about brush being picked in the parking lot. Mr. Nagashima replied that the city is picking it up to be dumped.

## **Greens Committee**

Nothing to report.

## **Finance Committee**

Nothing to Report.

## **House Committee**

Nothing to Report.

## **Union Business**

Nothing to report.

## **Correspondence**

Mr. Tyska stated that a meeting with Mr. Jokhakar still needs to be made.

## **Request for use of the Golf Course**

Nothing to report.

### Outing Request

Nothing to report.

### League Requests

Nothing to report.

### Old Business

No updates on COVID situation.

Discussion held on rate proposal for 2021 and the time frame of process.

### Personnel Committee

Ms. Albano gave update on upgrade of course CSS position. The Parks Bureau Chief, Jennifer Williams is in support of upgrade. A PAR was filled out with HR and it has moved to the union for approval. Mr. Tyska explained the funding is in the budget so no appropriation is needed for the upgrade.

### Pro-Shop Committee

Mr. Levin gave results of a survey done by the golf course. Results showed that 89% of golfers either like or love the final layout with golfers who initially opposed the changes now happy with what was done, 84% of golfers like or love the spacing out of tee times, 92% like or love the operation of the course as a whole, and 89% like or love course conditions. Mr. Levin reported that the three most desired changes were for tee boxes to be leveled, cart paths and bunkers redone.

### New Business

Nothing to report.

Mr. Tyska stated next month's meeting is to be held Tuesday September 15, 2020. Seeing no further business, Mr. Judge made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Birkett. **Motion passed unanimous.**

Meeting ended 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted

  
Bekim Ukperaj  
C.S.S. EGB