

MINUTES

Beaver Meadow Golf Advisory Committee Meeting
December 5, 2019

In Attendance: Chris Mulleavey (Chair), Jim Marshall, Jennifer Kretovic, Bob Norton, Mark Coen, Linda Matlage, Dick Holden, Roger Jobin, Brian LeBrun, Phil Davis, and Bernard "Sid" Chase.

Absent: Bob Whatmough and Fran Hunt.

The meeting was called to order.

- 1) **Public Input:** There was no public input.
- 2) **Approval of October 31, 2019 Meeting Minutes:** Bob Norton motioned, and Mark Coen seconded, to approve the October 31, 2019 minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- 3) **Course Update:**
 - The course closed earlier than planned due to cold weather.
 - Staff continues to prepare the course for winter; roping tees and greens.
 - Golf staff met with Parks staff regarding cross country skiing. The groomer is on site.
 - Bill Koch Youth Ski League will meet at Beaver Meadow beginning on January 10th.
 - Two cross country ski races are planned: a community race with Bill Koch Ski League, Concord High School, and Rundlett Middle School, on 1/4/2020; and a Rundlett Middle School Race on 1/16/2020.
 - Sales in the Pro Shop remain strong.
 - Simulator tournament series for December is well underway and well received.
 - 70 teams have signed up for the simulator league; as many teams as Derryfield has with three simulators and our highest number ever.
- 4) **USGA Reports:** The committee discussed reports from the visits on October 23-24. The tree evaluation report recommends removing many trees, particularly on the back and lower side of the course. The trees are impeding sunlight and airflow to turf grasses, impacting greens, tees and fairways. The agronomic report, with the exception of excessive tree encroachment, is generally positive. Green conditions are strong, with a few technical recommendations regarding plant growth regulator, annual bluegrass weevil control, and wetting agent use. Tees, fairways and greens need increased cultural practices, aeration, and fertilization to improve. This can be achieved by outsourcing or increasing staff.

Overall, both of the reports looked at making improvements to the player experience, and removing trees, not only to improve turf, but to open up shots for higher handicap players. Similarly, removing bunkers, adding forward tee boxes, and shifting mowing patterns increases the playability for high handicap players without impacting low handicap players. New forward tee boxes, in particular, will increase the enjoyment of the course for juniors, women, seniors and novices.

Brian LeBrun recommended that the committee continue to review the reports and meet again soon in order to update the Capital Improvement Plan that will be sent to the City Manager, incorporating the reports' suggestions.

The committee discussed follow-up visits with the USGA. These would be part of the course's operating budget and could be done as full or half days, annually or bi-annually.

- 5) **NHIAA State Golf Championships:** Phil Davis shared communication received from the NHGA requesting that Beaver Meadow host the NHIAA State Golf Championships for the next several years. It would involve a commitment to allow approximately 80 high school players, representing schools from across the state, to play for free on a Saturday or Sunday in mid-October. Beaver Meadow hosted in 2019 and received positive feedback.

Bob Norton motioned, and Mark Coen seconded, that the committee recommend to the City Manager that Beaver Meadow host the vents.

There was discussion regarding the statewide exposure the course would receive in the media, as well as the fact that the course would receive revenue from practice rounds. In addition, it would set Beaver Meadow up as not only a City asset, but as a State asset as well. Jennifer Kretovic mentioned that she attended the event in 2019, and the display of sportsmanship and proper course etiquette was excellent. She stated that events such as these highlight the golf course's purpose.

The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

- 6) **Financials:** Brian LeBrun shared the FY 2020 year to date financial report for the Golf Fund. The fund is in a better position than the prior year and will be monitored closely throughout the fiscal year.
- 7) **Old Business:** Jennifer Kretovic noted that the Eagle Scout project around the flag pole is complete. The Eagle Scout will return in the spring to add plants.
- 8) **New Business:** The committee thanked Mark Coen for all of his good work on the Golf Course Advisory Committee and for being a champion of Beaver Meadow.
- 9) **Adjournment:** Bob Norton motioned, and Chris Mulleavey seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned on a unanimous voice vote.
- 10) **Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 2nd, at 8:00 AM, at BMGC Clubhouse.