



Minutes: Golf Course Advisory Committee

April 8, 2024

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Golf Course Advisory Committee was held on April 8, 2024 at 8:30 AM with Craig Wetherbee presiding and with Chris Rain as recording secretary.

Committee Members: Craig Wetherbee, John Pinto, Paul Suhrie, Mike Yesunas. On Zoom: Supervisor Annette Atkinson. Township Staff: Supervisor Mark Oney, Pro Shop Manager Todd Brown, Maintenance Superintendent Bill Parr, Committee Liaison Chris Rain.

Meeting called to order at 8:31 am by Craig Wetherbee.

Agenda

- A motion to accept the agenda for the meeting was made by Mike Yesunas, seconded by John Pinto. Motion passed 4-0

Minutes

- A motion to accept the minutes from the March 2024 meeting was made by Paul Suhrie, seconded by Mike Yesunas. Motion passed 4-0.

Whispering Pines—Holly Dennis

- Holly Dennis was not present. A report from Ms Dennis was provided to the committee.
- The committee discussed staffing and cleaning for events.

Grounds—Bill Parr

- Bill Parr reported that the course is in good shape. The weather has been cool so the grass hasn't started to grow much yet. Repairs to the fairway started, aerating, and repairs to tee boxes are all started. The irrigation system is charged and ready.

Pro Shop—Todd Brown

- Todd Brown stated the beginning of the season has been strong with over 200 rounds. We are a little ahead YTD compared to 2023. He has received positive feedback from players. Most of the carts are operational. Seasonal staff has started. Pricing and availability of tee times at New York and New Jersey courses are similar to 2023 so he expects a season similar to 2023 or a little better.
- Friday night scramble will happen again this year and will begin at the end of May.
- The committee discussed ideas for a weeknight league to bring in more play on weekday afternoons.

Financials

- No report. Bonnie Winters is no longer with the Township. The Township hired a replacement, Bonnie Christman, who just started.

Marketing – Chris Rain

- Chris Rain stated that all of the usual marketing is happening. Posts on Facebook were posted daily in the month of March. The websites are updated. Eblasts went out before opening. More eblasts will go out as the season goes on to advertise \$25 Tuesday, Friday Night Scramble, and other events. The Township is running the usual ads in golf magazines with Steckel Publishing.

Old Business:

- Annette Atkinson reported that the Board of Supervisors extended the deadline to submit a bid for the sale of the golf course by 90 days. The new deadline is Tuesday June 11, 2024.

New business:

- Chris Rain provided the committee members with free passes to the annual spring Clean Up, which is on April 25, 26, and 27.
- Mike Yesunas reported that someone is practicing on the course in the evening hours on the 2nd green, causing damage. Todd Brown stated that if this happens during the course's regular hours that he should call the Pro Shop.
- Paul Suhrie stated that there have been some incidents between golfers and walkers on the course. The committee recommended posting that now that the course is open, walkers should please be respectful of players while out on the course.

Public Comment:

- None

Meeting Adjourned

- Mike Yesunas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:08am, seconded by Paul Suhrie. Motion passed 4-0.

The next meeting will be held on May 13, 2024 at 8:30 am at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Rain
Recording Secretary