

**Minutes of the Waukegan Park District  
Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners**

**Golf Advisory Committee Meeting  
May 5, 2016**

The Board of Commissioners of the Waukegan Park District and staff met for a Special Meeting to hold a Golf Advisory Committee Meeting on May 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bonnie Brook Clubhouse, 2800 North Lewis Avenue, Waukegan, Illinois.

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Marc Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and directed the roll.

**II. Roll Call**

Commissioners Marc Jones and Bill Sarocka. GolfVisions staff Tim Miles, Tony Tinetti, John LaFoone and Greg Benson. The staff and members present introduced themselves. The attendance sheet is attached.

Due to lack of a quorum, no official business was taken.

**Dirk Skelley**

Staffing update, Tony Tinetti is leaving and John LaFoone will assume the duties as general manager. Not a great year, but better than in 2014, with an uptick of approximately 4% in revenue. The extended fall weather helped, and it was noted how very weather dependent golf is. Hopefully, the outlook looks good moving forward. Eager to get the season underway.

**Tony Tinetti**

This is Tony's last meeting, and he noted how it is bittersweet, but he is looking forward to the new opportunities. As far as golf is concerned, this year was better than last. This year we had more than 31,000 rounds and last year rounds were under 30,000. So things are moving in the right direction. Up in revenue about \$17,000 from the prior year and with gift cards and deferred revenue, up more like \$40,000.

New pass this year for young people, 35 and under. Still trying to get the word out on the new passes, but have sold 9 so far, for about \$5,000 in revenue. This is to help get new golfers involved and committed to Bonnie Brook. Season pass total up slightly this year by 4-5 passes. Try to do something new every year, last year was twilight passes.

Tony is pleased that John is taking over; he has been with Bonnie Brook for eight years and has a great rapport with the guests.

Tony noted that since Ralph has been there, there are so many good comments and great brunches. The month Ralph took over versus current, there is more than three times the amount of money on the books. He noted that Ralph has built trust with guests and it is working. Had to stop Mother's Day reservations this year they had so many (350). He stated that there were 425 guests for Easter Brunch.

A comment was made about the number of people at the Friday fish fry, but so few of them are golfers. Tony responded that they are aware of that, and there is a need to continue to let golfers know how great the meals are.

He also noted that Ralph has specials five nights a week, and we need the support of the golfers and their friends to spread the word.

### **John LaFoone**

John thanked the group for their support and noted that he is looking forward to working with them.

### **Greg Benson**

Congratulations to John LaFoone, good to have someone that he knows and can work with.

Greg said he likes to think that all the work done the year before helps the new year start with great conditions. Things are moving forward, approved again to remove Ash trees due to Emerald Ash Borer disease. New rough mower approved in April, and on order, so it should be here in 6-8 weeks or so and will replace an older three wing deck mower. The new mower is a seven deck more so that ball lie and speed of play can be improved. It will be shared with the SportsPark and good for them and Bonnie Brook. Replacing the patio planters which were built in the 90's by an employee. The new ones will be recycled plastic and should need less maintenance.

In response to questions, he noted that growth regulators are being used and they will continue with the bent grass program. The project for covering the creek by the driving range is on hold. He then said that they are about halfway through the Emerald Ash Borer Mangement program.

Jim Glogovsky added that the new outdoor light sconces were ordered (they take 2-4 weeks to arrive) for the building and they should be installed when they arrive. He also noted that approval of the hallway carpet replacement with tile will be done this fiscal year. In addition, the building will be painted this year and wood damage repaired. Roof repairs are planned for next fiscal year; they were deferred for this year.

In addition, there was a request to mow the roughs shorter on 18, 10, 13, 8 and 2 to help some golfers so their balls don't get buried in the rough. It may speed up play for those who are not long players. It was noted that it grows fast. This will be looked into.

Also in response to a question, Greg B. noted that there is currently not a plan in place to plant more trees.

Discussion about asphalt cart path improvements and whether it is in the master plan, especially the path around #12.

It was also noted that Greenshire is open all week now and in good shape. Tony noted that we are no longer selling beer at Greenshire as the Village of Beach Park wanted \$750 for a liquor license and they don't make that so it's not worth it.

Also given were compliments about how well the golf carts were cleaned.

### **III. Questions and/or Comments**

Ed Holmes asked if there was an Ethics Code for employees of the Waukegan Park District. Greg Petry responded yes. Ed Holmes was asking about details of the law and Greg suggested that it can be found on the State of Illinois website, that is the ordinance in used. Employees are trained on the policy and it is in the policy handbook for all employees. Staff were just trained in January 2016. Jim and Greg P. reviewed how that training was done by Attorney Chuck Smith.

Greg B. was complimented on how nice of a job he does with caring for the course.

Rich Seremak noted that there are a lot of peanuts on the floor and times where there are coffee packets ready to be made and there were no cups or lids. At times, there is a lot of toilet paper on the floor or in the stalls. He feels that this should be cleaned up at night to keep things more presentable for early golfers to enjoy coffee.

Further discussion about the facial tissues no longer in the ladies room, but the containers were stolen so they aren't available anymore. This was followed by discussion about renovation of the restrooms and that the handicapped toilets don't meet ADA requirements.

Closing, it was said that they would like to see some of the suggestions of the advisory committee implemented.

Tony stated that there is less of a labor force at this time of year. He asked that if things are still happening in a month or so when at full staff, please mention them. Bringing in staff in the morning is cost prohibitive, so pro shop staff make coffee. Cleanliness of rest rooms is also a labor issue at this time of year. Tony said things usually look good and they are doing what they can with what they have, but staff truly cares about the facility.

Early morning trash pickup has disturbed some nearby residents, so it was asked that they call when it happens and let us know so we can deal with it. It was to be scheduled later in the morning.

Commissioner Sarocka told Greg B. great job in getting the course ready.

Positive comments about the First Tee program last year. The participants were respectful and enjoyed themselves. It was noted that Kevin Glabowicz will handle the program this year since John will assume his new duties.

Tony was thanked for his hard work and received a round of applause.

#### **IV. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 1, 2016.

#### **V. Adjournment**

**Motion by Commissioner Sarocka, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

James Glogovsky  
Superintendent of Finance and Administration

JFG:ss