

Town of St. Germain

Public Notice

Minutes of the July 7, 2016 meeting of the Golf Course Committee

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm by Committee Chairman Tom Christensen.
2. Roll Call, Establish a Quorum – Roll Call, Margo Rogers-Anderson, Aaron Becker, Jim Swenson and Tom Christensen, there were no citizens in attendance.
3. Open Meeting Verification - Tom Christensen stated that he posted the meeting before 4:30pm on July 6, 2016.
4. Approval of the Agenda with the order left up to the discretion of the Chairman – A motion was made by Margo Rogers-Anderson that was seconded by Aaron Becker, to approve the agenda with the order left up to the discretion of the chair, voice vote and the motion passed.
5. Approve Minutes of Past Meetings – There were no minutes ready for approval.
6. Citizen's Comments – Citizens are encouraged to share their concerns and ideas with the Committee. Please limit your comments to five minutes or less – There were no citizen's comments.
7. Discussion/Action Items
 - a. Review the current bills for recommendations to the Town Board for payment – The Committee reviewed the bills presented by Margo Rogers-Anderson and Aaron Becker. A motion was made by Jim Swenson that was seconded by Aaron Becker to recommend to the Town Board that these reviewed bills be approved for payment, voice vote and the motion passed.
 - b. Report and recommendations from Margo Rogers, Golf Pro.

2016 Season is going very well. As of July 6, 2016, Revenue is up \$17,018.01.

June ended with Revenue up \$1,925.35.

Snack Shop Revenue was down \$1,022.86 for June and down only \$1,321.97 over all through July 6, which is amazing considering the access of rainouts we had in May.

All leagues are moving along nicely and most pass holders seem to be happy with our administration of the leagues which is nice to see.

We had a demo day on Saturday, June 25th and had quite a turnout. Callaway and Taylormade reps staged all of the latest and greatest new golf products in their lines on the driving range and many pass holders and guests showed up to try a wide variety of golf shafts, heads and putters. The demo techs performed club fittings using a loft and lie board and provided valuable information to guest as to what shaft/head combinations were best for their games.

We have a Bridgestone ball fitting event coming up in July on Men's league day. Pass holders and guests will have to opportunity to hit their own golf ball and test it against a variety of Bridgestone golf balls to see which balls best suits their game. The tracking device used in the testing will measure swing speed, ball velocity, launch angle, back spin, side spin, carry distance and roll (effective) distance. The data will be taken on both the players' ball and the recommended Bridgestone ball and then the ball fitter will review with the client the golf ball performance and then explain the benefits of the recommended Bridgestone ball.

Junior golf and LPGA USGA Girls golf program is going well. We've had 3 of 10 events and are gearing up for the parent/junior tournament coming up in August. The kids learn a wide variety of golf skills from grip, stance, posture, and alignment to full swing, pitching, chipping and putting. We also spend a lot of time on safety, education about past and current events and happenings in the world of golf. The first 3 sessions focused on basic golf information such as swing instruction, etiquette, course layout, rules, scoring and understanding a scorecard and handicapping. Next week we move into station training and fun competitions on the range for prizes.

This is the part of the golf season I call the crazy season. My staff of just under 40 employees tends to get a little on edge this time of year as they often times have to multitask with phone calls, lines of customers and little mini tragedies happening around them. Things like loss of communication with the starter, dying cart, lost cart keys and the worst, computer problems. These slightly more crazy times can last for an entire shift and every once in a while,

tempers flare and feelings get hurt. With belligerent often times unappreciative guests adding to the drama, it can be quite hairy at times. I'm proud to say though that through it all, we have an exceptional staff that always puts customer service at the forefront of all contacts with guests...even when they don't necessarily want to. They often times go above and beyond the call of duty to let customers know we want them here and we want them to come back again. I have to say again that I am very proud of my staff and am very happy to be surrounded by such a professional, customer service oriented team.

I've cut my lesson schedule down significantly this year. My teaching times are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings only. This has allowed me to be more available to help administer golf leagues properly and keep up with customer communications, emails and phone calls in a timely fashion.

I did not allow league play to occur during this 4th of July week and I think it was a good decision. You can see in my reports that those league times were filled with green fee revenue. Though I took a bit of heat for this decision from various pass holders, I think it was the best decision for the town of St. Germain from a revenue/business standpoint. We lost the use of 4 of our golf carts last week due to a lightning strike. Meyer Yamaha is coming tomorrow to put new MCU modules in them so we should have for use this weekend. He is still trying to ascertain whether or not the work and parts will be covered under insurance since they are rentals.

Also, Greg from Meyer Yamaha has offered to fly myself and a board member on an all-expense paid trip to Newnan Georgia for a plant tour of the Yamaha cart facility. If we are interested in learning more about Yamaha, this might be something we should do. He is also pushing heavily the ideal of gas golf carts and says that the new fuel injected gas carts are significantly quieter than the old ones.

Mr. Clark came out to install the ventilation/fan system in the cart barn. We are looking forward to having the cart barn be dry during the upcoming hot and humid summer days. He also fixed some dead outlets and explained the mystery of 4 regularly dying carts. Two breakers were tripped. He thinks we might eventually need to look into replacing the breaker box and switches as they are older and it is hard to tell if the breakers have tripped.

Going forward into the next few months we are going to keep doing what we are doing, working hard to provide heavenly golf and saintly service to all current and future customers.

c. Report and recommendations from Aaron Becker, Golf Superintendent.

Weather Summary for June

Average high temperature for June was 73.6 degrees. Coldest high was Monday 6/6 @ 57 degrees. Warmest high was Friday 6/18 and 6/19 @ 86 degrees. We experienced very consistent rain the entire month of June. The storm on June 10th caused only minor damage to the golf course (white pine fell onto #6 green) and scattered branches elsewhere.

May rainfall: 5.83"

Current Conditions

Greens:

-Greens are in excellent shape currently. General maintenance continues weekly.

Fairways/Approaches:

-Fairways are in good shape, late June/early July dry period has dried out fairways moderately. Irrigation has been dialed in to maximize holes that need more water at night.

Tees:

-Tees are in excellent shape. Heavy holiday play has required aggressive devoting on the Par 3's.

Bunkers:

-Bunkers are in excellent shape. We saw two waves of heavy washouts in June due to rain downpours. This typically requires 5-6 hours of labor to repair the damage.

Rough:

-The rough is extremely consistent and dense. The new rough mower is allowing us to have a clear defined rough to fairway transition. The silhouette of the fairway edge is now magnified by the quality of cut by the new machine.

Irrigation

-New exhaust fan to remove warm air from inside the pump house is working very effectively. We have had zero high temperature alarms/messages on our control panel since installation. The temperature in the building stays within 1-2 degrees of outside temperature. We are very pleased with the results of a \$400 in house project.

-Recent lightning has blown several fuses at the control boxes on the course and our central control at the shop. We are happy that they did their job and not cause further damage to the aging VT-2 system.

-Normal wear and tear items have been identified and fixed on a weekly basis with the heads and pipe

-Rain Bird came by today to discuss doing a site survey to see potential for radio signal system. Toro has already been by in the fall of 2015 to complete the same test. This is free of charge up front, but if we decided to go with either provider we would be charged the site survey fee.

Projects

--Rock landscaping was completed around the bathrooms on #4 and #12

--Flower work phase 1 by the first tee box was completed June 9th, this included bed prep, pruning, transplanting of perennials, and planting new annuals. Phase 2 included weeding and deadheading the perennials in the raised bed by Hwy 70 and #14 tee box. Phase 3 was completed on June 29th which included planting annuals in each whiskey barrel on holes 1-18 and the pro shop steps. Currently we are watering as needed, fertilizing round 1, and spraying frequent application of deer deterrent.

--Stump grind work is still on the to-do list for the back of the driving range and #1 cart path near green

--Tee box/cart path pruning will need to be implemented soon. Overgrowths of select trees are prohibiting a clean tee off for the golfers. We will use our dump truck and the pole pruner to alleviate overhanging branches.

--Construction of the new ladies tee on 18 is on the schedule for the month of July

--Construction of the new Mulligan's area short game facility should take place toward the end of the month. We will begin following the end of junior golf as our schedule allows.

Miscellaneous

-Tommy gate platform lift on the 1-ton dump truck has been removed due to lack of use and the obstruction it was providing when we tried to dump branches into the burn pile. We plan to have Bob fabricate a low profile dump gate so we have a closed end when hauling material. Is there a potential to sell Tommy Gate unit on Craigslist?

-List old Ice machine on Craigslist?

-Considering buying a smaller lightweight pruning chainsaw with remaining equipment money. A large scale wind storm would call for the need of a 3rd saw. The current saw(s) are a 2015 Stihl MS391/20 inch bar and a 1999 Stihl 026/16 inch bar. In addition we have a 2015 Stihl pole pruner.

-On Wednesday 6/29 I went to the town shop and spread 5.5 acres worth of fertilizer on the sports fields, fire department, and Veteran's memorial.

Future ideas

-None at this time

d. Review Budget Performance – No further review was done.

e. Recommendation to the Town Board to Sell the Tommy Gate Platform off the One Ton Truck and the Ice Machine from Mulligans Snack Shop – A motion was made by Tom Christensen that was seconded by Jim Swenson to recommend to the Town Board that Aaron Becker determines a fair market price for the Tommy Gate Platform and Ice Machine and sells them on craigslist, voice vote and the motion passed.

8. Committee Member Concerns – There were no additional committee concerns at this time.

9. Next Regular Committee Meeting Date – August 4, 2016 at 6:00pm

10. Adjourn – A motion was made by Aaron Becker that was seconded by Margo Rogers-Anderson at 7:35pm to adjourn, voice vote and the motion passed.



Tom Christensen
Committee Chairman



Margo Rogers
Committee Member



Jim Swenson
Committee Member



Aaron Becker
Committee Member