

**TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD**  
**RIDGEFIELD GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
FINAL APPROVED  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
Wednesday, September 21, 2011

THESE MINUTES ARE INTENDED TO BE A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING  
AND NOT A VERBATIM RECORDING.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairperson: Mr. Tyrrell  
Vice Chairperson: Ms. Gerhard  
Secretary: Mr. Fazi  
Committee Members: Ms. Breekland and Mr. Kolb

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Director: Mr. Sergiovanni  
Superintendent: Mr. Steger

**STAFF ABSENT:**

None

**AGENDA:**

1. REVIEW MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
2. REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS ON COURSE OPERATIONS FROM:  
FRANK SERGIOVANNI, DIRECTOR  
TONY STEGER, SUPERINTENDENT
3. CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF SUGGESTED OPERATIONAL CHANGES  
FOR THE 2012 SEASON AND POSSIBLE VOTE.
4. OLD BUSINESS
5. NEW BUSINESS
6. PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

**ITEM# 1: REVIEW MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED AND UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED TO  
ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 2011 MEETING AS WRITTEN.**

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### **ITEM # 2: REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ON COURSE OPERATIONS.**

#### **Mr. Steger**

1. All greens have been aerified as of today using small solid tines.
2. The White Tee Box on Hole # 2 has been completed. It will possibly be opened for use in mid to late October.
3. The roof on the Pump House has been stripped and is ready for the new roofing shingles.
4. While most of the damage from the storm has been cleared to make the Course playable, weeks of cleanup work are still needed.
5. Some thought should be given to obtaining a generator capable of running the Pump Station. We were lucky the days following the power outage did not require the watering of greens etc.
6. The water fountain on the 16<sup>th</sup> Hole has been shut down. The water line needs to be shocked prior to resuming its use.

#### **Mr. Sergiovanni**

1. Handed out financial data and discussed the dollar impact of the Hurricane. While Mr. Sergiovanni was able to partially operate the Greens Fee Office during the power outage when the Golf Course reopened, phone service and Internet service was out. The General Public could not call the Golf Course and the Golf Course Website could not be updated to indicate we were open. Additionally, gasoline operated Golf Carts had to be brought in to augment the limited number of Electric Carts that were able to be operated. (Mr. Sergiovanni had been able to recharge a limited number of electric carts while working round the clock through the night rotating the one small generator among the 55 + cart battery chargers). Bottom line is the Golf Course lost approximately \$50,000 in Revenue.

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### ITEM # 3 CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF SUGGESTED OPERATIONAL CHANGES FOR THE 2012 SEASON AND POSSIBLE VOTE.

(Secretary's Notation: As indicated in earlier minutes, a review of all Golf Course Operations is being undertaken in order to implement changes that will have positive impact on Customer Service, Operations and Profitability).

1. **Nine Hole Greens Fee Rate:** Committee Members reviewed and discussed the various Golf Courses they had researched. On average, it was found that most Golf Courses having a 9 Hole Rate charged between 60% - 70% of the 18 Hole Rate. Each Committee member was asked to provide a possible proposal at the next meeting. The Committee felt a decision could be made by the next meeting to either accept or reject a 9 Hole Rate.
2. **Friday Included in Weekend Rates:** The Committee reviewed the impact of Junior and Senior Rates at Various Golf Courses that include Fridays in their Weekend Rates. Mr. Fazi indicated he would research and collect data to determine the actual dollar value of implementing this practice at Ridgefield Golf Course. Further discussion was tabled until next meeting when the financial data would be available.
3. **Resident ID Cards Preseason Discount:** The Committee is trying to determine if we should continue a Preseason discount. Some discussion took place. The matter was tabled to the next meeting for further discussion at which time additional financial data would be available.
4. **Late Play Walk Up vs. League Play:** The Committee is trying to determine the impact of additional 9 Hole League Play on Late Play Walk up Times. Some discussion took place. Additional discussion will take place at the next meeting.

### ITEM # 4 OLD BUSINESS

None

### ITEM #4 NEW BUSINESS

None

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### **ITEM # 6 PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. **Ms. Ann Doty**: Indicated the employee name tags are a plus to customer service. Additionally, she felt a positive impact could be made by placing Golf Ball Washers at the 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> Red Tees. Ms. Doty also indicated the placement of Divot Repair Sand Boxes on all Par 3's at the Red Tees would be beneficial.
2. **Dr. Henry Seemann**: Indicated the reason he was in attendance is to inform the Committee that he and a group of individuals were in the process of taking the necessary steps to change the Golf Course from a "Town Operated" Municipal Golf Course to an "Authority Operated" Golf Course. He indicated a possible May Referendum. Mr. Seemann asked if the Committee wished to be kept informed of the groups progress and the Committee indicated yes. When asked, Mr. Seemann respectfully declined to disclose the names of the other individuals he was representing.

**A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING AT 9:15 PM.**