



TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

BARNSTABLE RECREATION DIVISION

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Barnstable



Town of Barnstable Golf Committee Meeting Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds October 12, 2010 Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:36 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Attendance: Terry Duenas – Chairperson, Richard Aliberti, Daniel Ginther and Mary Creighton

Minutes from the September 14, 2010 meeting were accepted and approved with a few grammatical changes.

Public Comment:

Dave Miller discussed OBF Membership Association President's Plaque. He says it a "dead issue." It had gotten out of hand because of John Dale's email to the town. Nothing will be done until Dave gets confirmation from Michael O'Keeffe, who is on file as the first President of the association.

Old Business:

2011 Fee Rates

Dave Curley announced the town's fee hearing is set for December 7 with the Town Manager in the town hall hearing room. **Terry Duenas** added that we can vote on the rates at the November 9 meeting as there was not much attendance at tonight's meeting.

Mike Ghelfi proposed a set of rates for 2011, which are not set in stone as of now. Changes include Adult resident proposed at \$880, resident additional family member-\$730, Junior/student-\$260, and non-resident-\$1150. Also added a senior (over 80 years of age) rate with no increase at \$800.

Dan Ginther – golf is down, membership is not growing, he is against \$880, but thinks \$850 would be acceptable. Additional family member should be \$665-700, juniors-\$195, student-\$300, non-resident-keep the same. \$80 increase is too steep. We need to utilize great specials/promotions to draw players in.

Dick Aliberti agrees with Dan 100%. Price is important and we need to make it appealing for people to join.

Mary Creighton asked about a young adult, non-student rate. **Mike** agreed with Mary and will add it for next meeting. **Mary** doesn't agree with increase of \$80 on resident rate.

Dick Aliberti – added the Ridge Club has gone bankrupt and that maybe we could attract some of their members.

Dave Miller is ok with an increase and hopes the money will go to course improvements. There should also be some increase to non-residents so there is a benefit to being resident of the town.

John Broderick – little on the high side to go to \$880, but most members he knows are expecting an increase.

Terry Duenas – we can't go higher on the daily green fee rate and 10% may be a little high, but it's only about \$10/month during the playing season. Asked the board what is palatable?

Mary Creighton said \$880 is too high. \$825 would be ok. **Dan** thinks \$825 and \$700 for residents, \$1125 for non-residents. **Dick** agreed with Dan. **Dave Miller** said about a 5% increase would be ok. **Terry** thinks \$850 would be ok.

Dave Curley said the Recreation Department is not asking for many changes. Some minor increase in beach stickers and non-resident rates, but the final decision rests with the Town Manager, who likes to keep rates affordable and attractive.

John Broderick wondered what the average number of rounds was for a member yearly to help sell any increase. **Mike** thinks there should be a difference between resident and public daily fee rates. **Dan** plays a lot on vacation and thinks the daily rates need to be attractive to bring in more players. **Terry** added the courses are expensive to maintain and the resident members are the main users and we need to support the facilities/investments. **Dan** said to sell it to non-residents, the courses need to be good looking and well maintained as public players look at conditions as a barometer of what the rates should be and where they will play. **Terry** thinks course needs to be funded and supported. We're at bottom now of running the courses with smallest staff ever and can't slash the budget any more.

Dick said OBF is paid off, where is that \$200K? **Bruce McIntyre** added \$100K has gone to administrative support and \$100K to capital. We are now paying money to the open space commission as well. We need to make the money or we don't use capital money.

Dan thinks there should be a range ball promotion (i.e. \$100 for x amount of small buckets for the year) to make the driving range more attractive and maybe reduce the resident range membership to \$250.

Mike and Dave Curley will take all of the information into consideration and propose a final recommendation for the November meeting.

Election of Officers – Terry Duenas

Dan Ginther and Mary Creighton feel they should delay an election until a 5th member of the board is added.

Terry Duenas – will check with Janet Joakim or Barbara Ford. **Dick Aliberti** – said no one has been interviewed for the position as of yet. **Terry** added that applicants must be town residents. We've had 7 members and had gone to 5 about 7 years ago.

Mary made a motion to postpone the election of Officers until the 5th member is added to the committee.

Dan second. Unanimous vote to postpone elections.

Manager's Report – Mike Ghelfi and Bruce McIntyre

Mike – September was a tough month starting with Hurricane Earl that didn't materialize. OBF revenue of \$121,348 (\$32K short of projection) and Hyannis revenue of \$113,702 (\$21K short of projection). Both courses are roughly \$50K short of yearly projections so far, but October is off to a good start, especially with new member promotion starting well. Rounds played were down in September, but remain ahead of 2009 totals. **Bruce** – Tess is retired and Mason, 12 week old Australian Shepherd, is replacement. James Bentley, OBF Foreman, is Mason's master/owner and will be training and working Mason at the golf course.

Dan – add agenda item for November- memorial garden bricks-especially in light of death of Doc Mahoney. **Terry** added that Doc was a past member of the golf advisory committee and wanted to publicly thank him for all he had done for the golf course. **Bruce** will be working on a request to add a forward tee on the 18th hole on the hill on the right side. This was Doc's personal request and he was told before his death that it would be done.

Terry Duenas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by **Dan Ginther**, the committee voted and it was passed unanimously at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Ghelfi