



**Borough of Fenwick
580 Maple Avenue
Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475**

Parks Commission Meeting Approved Minutes for September 18, 2021

1. Call to order at 9:01AM, Frank Keeney, Scott Pulver, Margaret Wade, Robyn Gengras, Jeff Patterson, Richard Patterson, and Jeff Champion in attendance.
2. Comments from the public – NONE
3. Approval of minutes from prior meeting – Motion made, seconded, unanimous approval.
4. Tennis Report – Robyn, successful season. Tennis court reservation sheets have been given to the office and additional copies are there. Frank requested that tennis court rules be reviewed so that a sign can be made for the tennis court area.
5. Beach and Pier Report – Margaret, nothing major to report. A discussion regarding storm preparedness and how the beach and pier area are put back together took place. The time of year and severity of storms dictates how quickly the area is put back together.
6. Golf Report – Scott, Frank gave a review of the master plan and how it came to be. The current improvement plan of the golf course started with leveling tee boxes and will move forward with greens and bunkers. 2021/22 will focus on red tee box on #4, tee box on #3, and possibly how to rework hole #7 which could be a mature tree, bunker expansion, or increase area of fescue grass (searching for balls may increase slow play). Jeff Patterson spoke regarding how he sees hole #7, Scott agreed. Input from the golf course architect, Tim Garish, will be forthcoming.
7. General Manager's Comments – Updates on CPS, statistical data from CPS, starters/rangers, and the pier were distributed and discussed.
8. Superintendent's Comments – Updates on the golf course, tennis courts, beach/pier area, and other Borough areas were distributed.
9. Discussion and recommendations to address slow play on the golf course:
A recommendation will be forthcoming after the exploration of changing tee times from 10 minutes to 12 or 15 minutes will be revisited once Jeff Champion provides some financial and statistical data.

There are some considerations such as how back-to-back par 3's is a natural bottleneck for backups on the course. Holes 5, 7, and 8 can back up because longer hitters try to drive the greens and wait on the tee box for the green to clear before teeing off.

Possible solutions include rotating the starter shack so it faces hole #1, taking what we currently call a starter and turning them into a cashier and putting a starter out on hole #1 so as to allow the ranger to solely watch the course.

10. Discussion and recommendations for 2022 golf rates – a thorough discussion took place that resulted in the General Manager providing committee members with more financial and statistical data regarding moving tee times from 10 minutes to 12- or 15-minute intervals.
11. Discussion and recommendations for tennis court rules and 2022 single use rates -
12. Tennis court resurfacing...timeline and cost – The tennis courts are getting to the end of their lifespan, and it is estimated that a complete rebuild will be around \$100,000. An electric tennis court maintenance vehicle should be considered at that time which costs around \$25,000. This project will be looked at in the 2023/24 budget.
13. Golf cart protocol – a discussion took place regarding more than 2 golf carts going out per tee time (4 golfers with 4 golf carts) and how it is taxing on the golf course. COVID relaxed the previous rule about only 2 golf carts per foursome. Communications will go out in the winter to residents and ticket holders (depending on the status of COVID) about going back to 2 golf carts per foursome.

A trail fee was discussed for patrons who bring their own carts and will be considered. A \$3 per round visit or for ticket holders, \$300 per year.

A discussion took place on how to only allow golf carts with “turf tires” on the golf course.
14. Other business -
15. President’s comments -
16. Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Champion
General Manager