

Westport Golf Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 2, 2025

The Golf Advisory Committee of the Town of Westport conducted a Zoom meeting on Monday, June 2, 2025. The meeting was called to order by GAC chairperson, Jane Dally at 7:02p.m.

Members Present: Jane Dally, Corey Miller, John Ehli, Mike Durkin, Anne Palmer and Irla Landry. Not present was Rich Raphael.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the May 5 GAC meeting were unanimously approved by all GAC members at the meeting.

Public Comments

No comments

Presidents Reports

9 Hole League – President Anne Haymon reported that the 9-hole league has had a great start to the season even though rain has hampered play on Thursdays for several weeks. On May 8 there was a Member-Member mixer and a Cinco de Mayo theme. They organized a Jon Janik golf clinic that took place on May 19.

LWGA 18 Hole League – President Sue Roberts reported an update on tournaments. The President’s Cup, the first major of the season is over and the George Buck, a match play event is now underway. The Member Guest is set for August 19.

LMGA – President Jared Rapoport reported that the league has 405 members and that all tournaments have had a full field. They are preparing for the Member-Guest on July 18-19. Everyone is complimenting the course conditions.

Administrator Report

Parks & Recreation Director, Erik Barbieri reports the Tee Leveling Program is being planned for the Fall and the project will soon go out for bid. Some tweaks have been made to the plan as per architect Doug Smith. Erik is also looking at installing some cart paths if the budget allows. Erik has started conversations to get the “New Clubhouse Project” back on the table. Discussion ensued about how best to move forward. Perhaps a Clubhouse Committee will be created. Erik needs to know what has been discussed to date regarding the location of the clubhouse and what the Westport golfers want in their clubhouse. Regarding a new Parks Maintenance Facility, an assessment to study what’s needed is next in line. Then a location study will follow.

Superintendent Report

Sean Charles reported that the fescue is starting to grow back with fewer weeds around the bunkers. Some areas of concern: the greenside bunker at 14. For the most part, Longshore is in good shape. Work that's been done is coming into form. Questions addressed: Bees on the 9th fairway bunker: Sean said the bees are harmless and difficult to get rid of. Sean will take a look at them and see what he can do. Questions about the fescue. Some believe this slows up play when golfers need to look for balls. Sean is balancing aesthetics with playability. Geese chasing dogs: Park & Rec. has been working with a dog service that chases away the geese but this is costly and now they are exploring options with something called Goosinator, a remote control predator that moves in and out of water. Several units may be purchased to be used at the golf course and the beach.

Golf Pro Report

Jon Janik reported that golf rounds for the month of May totaled about 5,300. That's slightly down from last year. Rain may have played a role. The ten year average is just under 5,000 rounds in May. We are up 300 rounds over the 10-year average. Tournaments: There have been two so far – the Gridiron and Staples Rugby with about 88 players in each. Upcoming: The Y's Men — coming up next Monday for their spring event and the VFW tournament on June 16.. May junior golf classes are completed, with 100% participation and a wait list. Despite the rain, all four classes took place. John also mentioned he has started a Jr.PGA league. 14 juniors have signed up. Matches will take place at Longshore and other courses in the area including Oak Hills, Silvermine and Shorehaven will participate. Online reservation system: Still operating with the Chelsea reservation system. There is a plan to make a change, but Jon doesn't want to do it during the season as there may be kinks to work out. He will spend the summer researching new systems, and he hopes that by the end of summer, he'll be able to implement a new system.

GAC Comments

Discussion ensued about the details of a new tee time system.

The Zoom meeting ended at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Dally

GAC Chairperson