

Richter Park Authority Meeting Minutes

Richter Park Office

April 19, 2011 – 6:00pm

In compliance with Connecticut General Statute § 1-225, these minutes are being provided for informational purposes and are subject to approval of the Richter Park Authority Board of Directors at its next regular meeting.

Meeting called to order at 6:03 pm by Chairperson, Bob Eberhard.

Members present: Bob Eberhard, Len Cagianello, Leroy Diggs, Al Mead, Chris Marano and George Radachowsky. Absent: John Priola, Jean DaSilva. Alternate appointed: Felix Bonacci (for absent John Priola). Also, Maria Sanyshyn, General Manager, Rob Dorsch, Golf Course Superintendent and Karen Madaus, Assistant General Manager, Scott Ward, Director of Golf, Brian Gehan, Head Golf Professional.

Public Session:

-Joan Mead-23 Jefferson Ave-commented on receiving notice from Richter Arts Association regarding Big Band Concert and their request for a \$5 donation to benefit the Richter House and expressed her appreciation and thanks.

Motion by Al Mead, seconded by Leroy Diggs, to accept minutes of the 3/15/11 regular meeting. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Len Cagianello, seconded by Felix Bonacci, to accept minutes of 3/28/11 special meeting. Passed unanimously.

Chairman's comments: Mr. Eberhard welcomed new authority member, George Radachowsky.

-He requested we keep Frank Russo, authority alternate, and his family in our prayers.

-New member, George Radachowsky, spoke of his hopes to do his best developing the Richter Park team and stated it was a privilege to be here.

-Mr. Eberhard stated that he spoke with Mr. Salito's attorney Jack Garamella and they agreed that Mr. Salito would honor all credits. Contact information is available in the pro shop.

-Reported that Les Pinter, Danbury Corporate Counsel requests that he not be called by individual authority members and that any and all questions to his office be funneled through the RPA chair.

Treasurer's Report – Maria Sanyshyn presented March 31, 2011 financials noting that the Line of Credit balance of \$314,000 includes \$207,000 paid for cart paths. She also reported that the sale of discounted gift cards was \$70,000 less than last year which also contributes to the balance on the line of credit. Mrs. Sanyshyn also reported that the current HVAC improvement to the clubhouse will total \$95,000 of which includes an additional \$8,000 in unexpected

electrical costs. \$51,000 has been paid as of 3/31/11. Motion by Al Mead, seconded by Len Cagianello, to approve financial report as presented, subject to audit. Passed unanimously.

Director of Golf Report – Scott Ward reported that transition has been incredibly easy thanks to cooperation of management. Brian Gehan, Head Golf Professional reported on “Spring Break Junior Golf Camp” activities and the “Walk in the Park” program he will be initiating this year.

Grounds & Greens - Rob Dorsch, Golf Course Superintendent reported that we are off to a slow start due to the recent cold temperatures. He also reported that recent cold temperatures have slowed germination. Len Cagianello suggested looking into costs to deal with drainage on six to eight of the greens. Al Mead announced a Grounds and Greens committee meeting for Thursday, 4/28...time to be determined.

Manager’s Report – Maria Sanyshyn reported that June issue of Golf Digest magazine will be announcing that Richter Park is among “Top 50 Courses for Women in American” and that Richter Park continues to have a Golf Digest 4 star rating for Best Places to Play.

-Reported how grateful she is for Brian Gehan’s contribution and stated because of his cooperation and willingness to step in while we are slow we have saved significantly on operations costs.

-Reported on discussions with Scott Ward to develop over time a new “America’s Friendliest Golf Course” initiative which among other things will include golf tips at each tee sign. Maria requested approval to conduct a raffle for 2012 Free Golf as suggested by John Priola. All proceeds would go to the Master Plan. Motion by Al Mead, seconded by Len Cagianello, to add an agenda item under new business to discuss this. Passed unanimously.

–Reported issues with non-paying golfers gaining access to the course and asked about policy of whether to suspend these players. Decision to add to agenda for May meeting.

FORe – Al Mead reported that meetings are always 2nd Wednesday of the month in the Grill Room at 6pm. Fund raising activities to include a Flea Market...funds of which would go to Richter House. The annual FORe board of directors meeting will be May 11 at 6pm. Correspondence to all RP clubs to be sent regarding FORe’s main purpose and requesting contributions from their members.

Richter House- Maria Sanyshyn reported that the state is in the process of reviewing the 2nd round of bids. Funds of \$50,000 from city, City pays the bills first; \$25,000 from the Richter House Restoration fund and \$75,000 from state.

Old Business:

-Bob reported on correspondence (see attached) sent to Musicals regarding issues with taking down their addition to the temporary storage shed and building permits required. Joyce Northrop, Musicals Artistic Director, reported that MAR has gone to the City for the required permits. Motion by Chris Marano, seconded by Len Cagianello, that MAR be given a 1 month extension, until the next Authority meeting, to go to the City for the permit and comply with the requests in the letter from the Authority dated 3/23/11. Passed unanimously.

-Survey status- Bob Eberhard to appoint a new survey committee to review status of survey originally created to go out in late 2010.

-Motion by Al Mead, seconded by Chris Marano, to add discussion of costs of giving tee times to active military personnel to new business. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

-Motion by Al Mead, seconded by Chris Marano, to tape record Authority meetings and store them in accordance with the law and rules of order. Motion to table to next Authority meeting by Felix Bonacci, seconded by Leroy Diggs. Motion passed. Bob Eberhard will name a sub-committee with Al Mead, Chair.

-Motion by Chris Marano, seconded by Al Mead, to publicly read all correspondence sent to the RPA for benefit of the public and Authority members except for those exempted per Freedom of Information Act. Motion passed 4 to 2....For=Al, Chris, Felix, George. Opposed=Leroy Diggs, Len Cagianello

-Regarding the raffle discussed under Manager's report: Motion by Al Mead, seconded by Len Cagianello, to authorize the manager to apply for a raffle application with the state with proceeds to benefit the golf aspect of the Master Plan. Passed unanimously.

-Discussion of special rates/tee times for Active Military personnel to be put on agenda for next meeting. Maria to call Sterling Farms regarding their policy.

-Motion by Al Mead, seconded by Chris Marano, to rescind the motion made at the special meeting of the Authority on March 28, 2011 regarding the performance evaluation of the General Manager. Bob Eberhard read Les Pinter's statement and ruled the motion out of order with no further discussion.

Meeting adjourned around 8:30pm

Respectfully, Chris Marano for Jean DaSilva, Secretary