

Golf Course Landscape Master Plan Design Review Committee	Meeting Minutes
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Date: January 26, 2022

Place: Zoom Webinar

DRC Members Attending: Justin Lawson, Clara Batchelor, Phillip Bell, Antonia Bellalta, Carol Hillman, Theresa Mooney, John Parla

Members Absent: John Bain

TOPIC	KEY POINTS/DISCUSSION
Welcome/Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting commenced @ 2:04 • J. Lawson opened the meeting by thanking the attendees and stating the DRC is a collaboration of the architects, this committee, and our community to create a plan that addresses the needs of the golf course. He urged us to use of the words “landscape master plan” as we will be focusing on the golf course and practice areas. He then introduced the DRC members, leadership staff, and design team. A. Bellalta has volunteered to serve as Chair of the committee. A vote for this position will take place at next meeting.
Overview of Goals for the Master Plan/Process to Develop Plan	<p>DRC Kick-off Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Lawson started the presentation by reviewing the project goals, process, and timeline. Functionality will be a top priority in this plan. The first phase will begin immediately after the US Open. The rest of the phases will be conceptualized and presented in late summer/early fall. Phase One, hopefully, will break ground late fall 2022 or early spring 2023 with a budget of \$350,000.
Golf Course Architect Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Mungeam (Golf Course Architect) has worked with reknown designer Jeffrey Cornish out of college and was hired into his firm. He then introduced his team of professionals. Tim Gerrish, Golf Course and Landscape Architect Brian Vinchesi, Irrigation Consultant Michael Toohill, Environmental Specialist Arthur Little, Forward Tee Specialist M. Mungeam has worked on many projects on golf courses such as Franklin Park and George Wright, Boston, Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds, Barnstable, Wellesley Country Club, Wellesley, and several others across the US (see presentation). His team’s work will include: Evaluate the golf course tee size and alignment, angles, distances, visibility, accessibility, etc.

	<p>Bunker condition, placement, and drainage. Improve strategy of golf course. Restoring greens and fairway drainage. Tree health and canopy – removal and replanting trees for better sunlight and airflow. Circulation issues – getting from clubhouse to 1st tee Community access and use. Collaboration between the DRC and the consultants.</p>	
<p>Golf Course Historical Perspective</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K. Mendik (President and Co-Founder Wayne Stiles Society, Attorney, Environmental Compliance) is the author of <i>The Life & Work of Wayne Stiles</i>. Stiles and Van Kleek, both golf and landscape architects, were the original designers of Putterham Meadows. He said the Brookline Golf Course is a grand golf course with great bones. He presented several photos of the golf club in 2005, Stiles’ memorabilia, residences, and examples of his work. Stiles was a local golfer who competed in Brae Burn Country Club and Mass Open. He also shared older planting plans and photos of the course which will assist current designers in their restoration. He praised the great professional team we will be working with. 	
<p>Review of Proposed Resident and Golfer Survey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Lawson announced the Resident and Golfer Survey will be sent out electronically the week of February 7th. This will be an opportunity to have the public as well as committee members voices heard. The survey link will also be on the website Brooklinegolf.com. • C. Hillman suggested we need to explain terms on survey for non-golfers as well as a map of the course and include the question, “Is there anything else you would like to comment on regarding the golf course?” Perhaps a couple of focus groups may help to get broader ideas. • K. Mendik stressed it is important that there is a distinction between the nomenclature of restoration and renovation - particularly around greens. • J. Lawson added it will be a hybrid of both elements. • C. Batchelor asked how is survey going to be distributed? • J. Lawson responded the survey will be sent out to the golf course email distribution list as well as the Recreation Department distribution list. Also, we may put out a press release which directs people to the website where they can access the survey. • C. Batchelor suggested reaching out to neighborhood associations. • A. Bellalta also suggested sending a flyer, with a link to the survey, to the neighborhoods around the golf course. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> J. Lawson said letters will be going out to the course abutters. A great idea to include the survey There will also be signs and posters at golf club. All presentations, recordings of the meetings, etc. will be on the golf course website.
Future Meeting Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings are on Zoom. Wednesdays 2:00 – 3:15 PM on the following dates: February 9th, March 2nd, March 16th
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N. O’Connor asked if the \$350,000 budgeted to the first phase of the master plan in addition to the US Open repair/refurbishment funds? J. Lawson responded that this amount is in addition to the US Open funds which will have a separate budget. A. Heimlich asked if the plan takes into consideration the surrounding land by fixing the water problem on the course. If you fix the course, the water, dampness, and mosquito infestation issues – all safety issues – of the land next to it, need to be considered. J. Lawson responded it is our responsibility to be a steward for the neighborhood. This is a very complex piece of property and in future meetings we will discuss this. From the golf course center, there is a square mile around the facility that treats and processes storm water runoff. Part of our functionability as a golf course is understanding how to process water as to not flood our downstream neighbors. Aspects being looked at are flood storage capacities, water filtration, etc. to make sure water is not endangering anything downstream. This is why we have our expert team in place. A. Bellalta stressed everyone needs to be involved in this process and encouraged attendees to attend the meetings. J. Lawson thanked the committee and members of the public.
Adjourn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vote to adjourn; A. Bellalta made motion to adjourn; C. Hillman 2nd. Roll call: C. Batchelor, P. Bell, C. Hillman, T. Mooney, J. Parla, A. Bellalta. Adjourned @ 3:05 PM

Next Meeting: February 9, 2022

Location: Zoom Webinar

**A true record
Attest: Laurie Ferrell**

Date: January 26, 2022