

Date: April 13, 2022

Place: Zoom Webinar

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

Guests: Tim Gerrish, Nicholas Kenis, Arthur Little, Mike Murphy, Mark Mungeam.

TOPIC	KEY POINTS/DISCUSSION
<p>Chairperson's Welcome/Introduction Approval of Minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting commenced @ 5:30 PM • J. Lawson welcomed panelists and guests. This will be the final meeting of the public outreach phase before we begin reviewing the master plan. • J. Parla stated he has never seen a more thought-out plan than that from J. Lawson and the team he brought in to address water design. • J. Bain moved to approve the March 13th meeting minutes; C. Hillman 2nd; Roll call: C. Hillman, C. Batchelor, T. Mooney, J. Parla, A. Bellalta. Unanimously approved.
<p>Golfer and Resident Survey Results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Lawson presented the distribution channels of the Resident/Golfer Survey stating there was a great response to survey with a total of 567 total responses, 33% were Brookline residents. • T. Gerrish commented of the 567 respondents: (find presentation here) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not all answered every question. 2. 4 out 5 were male (only 23% of all golfers are female) 3. Good age diversity. 4. 90% played golf at our course. <p>10 Takeaways: Responses show there is much passion about the facility. (Maybe we should include something somewhere for those who do not open the presentation, the top "issues" with the Golf Course. Drainage!!!) Rounds played suggests Brookline isn't necessarily their home course. Most responders are 14 handicap males. People enjoy holes 12 and 18 People either love or hate hole 14. Holes 1, 2, 9 and 15 are least favorite. Golf features viewed as average or below average. Loyal players return, but not as often as on average. Expand on environmental education. (Again I know this is in the presentation but I would include what other activities were suggested). 30% of people are coming here for reasons other than golf.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: • A. Bellalta asked if we could separate comments of Brookline residents? • T. Gerrish – yes, he will follow up with that data.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Parla emphasized the importance of showing non-golfers the spots on the course that they would be able to walk safely, out of harm's way. • M. Mungeam hoped to be able to create a proper walking trail but doesn't think this is possible. Hard to loop it all around the course. A loop trails and connections to Dane Park would make more sense during winter months when golf isn't being played. • J. Parla suggested a walking trail network. that the only way it would be possible is if you could get some cooperation from TCC. (Why is this in bold)?? • C. Bachelor asked it would be important to know if those people who had played here only a few times a year, did they play more times other places, or are they just too busy to play golf in general? • C. Hillman hopes we wouldn't put efforts to create a walking trail on the golf course. Though she likes the path going around the course. • A. Bellalta asked is there a time when the golf course is closed to golfers. • J. Lawson after dark it becomes a home to wildlife. Course is closed on Monday mornings for maintenance. He sees many dog walkers, etc. We only use the course for golf 9 months a year so there are times when non-golfing activities can occur. • A. Bellalta commented the golf cart paths are not great per the survey. • J. Bain asked how we are able to track customers that come from out of town? • J. Lawson Non-Brookline players came from Newton, Boston, Needham, West Roxbury, etc. • J. Bain Are we attracting young people? Middle aged people? • J Lawson responded during the day we do get quite a few retirees. There is an influx of younger people with folks working from home during COVID.
Golf Course Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Murphy stated the course is in decent shape though we are half-inch below average on rainfall. Greens came out well after the winter. On the tees, grass is not coming out of dormancy. Wear from early play is showing. Last year's heavy rainfall killed grass so there is work to do to get them back in shape. Overall, the golf course is in good shape. He is extremely excited about the master plan and looking forward to creating a world class facility. He stressed the restoration efforts will be done at 100%. • J. Bain praised M. Murphy's efforts in caring for this beautiful course.
Forward Tee Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A. Little gave a quick background of his history as a golf course owner where he rebuilt the tee system. He grew female participation from 15% to 35% and Junior play from 0% to 7.5%. He believes that tees should match people's swing speeds. He suggested to provide a course that is fun and comfortable for a wide spectrum of people. He provided a copy of Brookline's current scorecard versus a proposed scorecard. None of the courses that compete Brookline have these kinds of tees. He expects more women, juniors, and older people will play as a result of these changes better serving the community.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C. Hillman asked about the proposed scorecard if the new green tees are the current red tees? • A. Little talked about combo tees, combining gold and green, being a nice change. • P. Bell emphasized it is important to educate golfers about skill levels and where they should play from (tee locations).
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No public comments.
Future Meeting Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next DRC meeting will be Tuesday, May 17th at 5:30 PM and will last approximately 90 minutes. M. Mungeam will present the preliminary master plan. • We will take a break for U.S. Open until late June giving time for review of the masterplan.
Adjourn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote to adjourn. C. Hillman moved to adjourn, P. Bell 2nd. • Adjourned @ 7:07 PM

Next Meeting:
May 17, 2022 @ 5:30 PM

Location: Zoom Webinar

A true record
Attest: Laurie Ferrell/Nicholas Kenis

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