

LLCC Greens Committee Meeting MINUTES

Tuesday, July 6, 2021 (1:30 PM – Pro Shop Patio)

ATTENDEES: Vern Duggan, Robbi Alberts, Renie Dyson, Ed Irvin, Lance Levine, Tim Magee, Nancy Milliman, Gayle Wilcox,
[Excused: Sheila Nokes, Jerry Nokes, Steve Saylor]

Guests: Dean Dyson

Staff: Elen Gaschet DeL'isle, Mark Hendricks, Jason Howerton, Roger Milliman

Vern called the meeting to order at 1:34 PM, and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Minutes: Gayle Wilcox moved to: **APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 1, 2021 GREENS COMMITTEE MEETING.** Lance Levine seconded, and the motion PASSED.

Greens Report: Superintendent Jason Howerton said he wanted to THANK his crew! He appreciates them and takes a lot of pride in them! After a quick (5-10 minute) morning meeting, they are all off & running to keep our course in excellent shape! With such a great crew, it makes it easy to do the tasks. They work Mon-Thur 5:30am-2pm; Fri 5:30-9:30am; then split crews on Sat & Sun 5:30-9:30am. All are extremely reliable which is very important.

During the excessive temperatures, Jason was able to manage & organize the crew to water/cool down the course to protect turf health. Pro Shop staff were helpful when the course had to be closed for the safety of members/guests.

The course is in very good shape and has been getting a ton of play. The course is showing its dry areas, high traffic areas, and the tee boxes are a little beat up. That's usual for this time of year. The crew is working hard trying to keep up with the course needs and playability by moving pin placements, tee markers, and cart signs more often. They also plan is to build some new tee boxes.

Things accomplished in **JUNE:** Installed 2 “*No urinating*” signs on Hole #8 (*there are a couple left; where should we put them? On Hole #2?*) Planted **flowers** in the box by the bathroom on #5. **Vented** greens, collar, and approaches. Applied **wetting agent** to help with the heat stress on greens, tees, and areas in the fairway. **Sprayed weeds** throughout the golf course (need to do a 2nd application for lawn daisies & clover). Installed new posts and chain to protect people from driving next to the irrigation **pump-house** (by the public boat launch).

Things to accomplish in **JULY:** Apply broadleaf selective **herbicide** to treat clover & lawn daisies. Continue making adjustment on **turf-cutting heights** and **irrigation** to improve playability.

Topics to Discuss: (1) The course (cart path) needs about five more speedbumps, at a cost of ~\$200+ each. [**ACTION ITEM:** Vern said he'd make the request in the Greens Budget.] (2) The week of July 12th, Victor Kelly will come back out to give another estimate of paving the remainder of cart-paths (along #3; #5 by the bathroom; #6 down the hill; and #8 from green to road). *It's also been suggested we reseal the entire asphalt before too long.* (3) Reconstruct culvert across #7 fairway (provide nice-looking drainage with rocks).

Pro Shop Report: Elen reported the course was BUSY the month of June. Golf lessons began and were expanded to 3:30, 4:30 & 5:30 PM. Lots of little kids are taking lessons. [NOTE: Instructors Mark Hendricks, Joe Long & Elen could use some help, if anyone is interested.] Women's “*Wine & Golf Lessons*” brought in \$1,054.33 (94), and the Men's “*Beer & Golf Lessons*” raised \$257.29 (22). Total June income for **golf lessons: \$1,357.72** (126p)

Pro Shop income in June was **\$29,364.53** (*nearly 4% higher than a year ago June 2020/\$28,267.78, which included many “annuals” when we reopened after the COVID shutdown*). The three-year comparison for the 9-month fiscal year period (**Oct. 1 thru Jun 30**) shows a substantial increase! 2019 = \$160,773 ... 2020 = \$164,133 ... and **2021 = \$257,536** (which includes \$30K for the Café, sold through golf.) This was along with a 3½ day closure, due to the heatwave!

Upcoming events? **Saturday, August 7th** will be the **Minnihan Tournament** (but they won't be renting the full course for the full day ... Saturday morning, 18-hole shotgun; plus Friday 'tee-times only' after 12:30 PM)

And another **Glowball Tournament** is scheduled for **Friday, August 20th**.

Special thanks to **Mark Hendricks & Dave Morgan** working the Pro Shop desk, and to all of the Marshals!

Dress code? Some ladies have been seen wearing spaghetti straps or sports bras; some men were shirtless. We need to keep emphasizing that yes, we DO have a dress code that should be followed (no skimpy tank tops; shirts required). This should be mentioned by the Pro Shop desk, and Marshals should try to enforce it.

Fivesomes? Elen said that on rare occasion they do allow fivesomes on the course when it's not busy, but they are told they shouldn't block play. “Golf Now” is doing pretty good for us. Lots of people from different places are coming to play, but sometimes they only have 2-3 players. When it's really busy, we should pair up those twosomes.

CAM Report: Roger Milliman thanked Jason & Elen for managing their labor forces. It will be an interesting year to predict budgets. Roger said we should be conservative on revenue estimates, and expenses, so we can end up within budget. We'll get our Greens Budget request to the Board by August for their awareness, & for approval in September.

Thanks to all the staff for making this a really good year despite all the challenges. Chef Josh is leaving effective July 16th (taking another job to spend more time with family). Roger has some interviews lined up to replace him. Megan also resigned. Roger said they are looking at Café operations for the future. Right now, decent revenue is pretty much only on the weekends. They barely make enough to cover wages on Thursdays & Fridays. He was asked if the wraps continue (on days when the Café is closed)? Roger thought the new chef could continue the wraps. It was stressed that the Café needs to be OPEN on holiday weekend in the future! (We were closed July 4th & 5th).

Navy Property: Roger said there's no change since last month's report. The Navy has started reviewing the surveyor's plans. Once they review it, we'll move forward with a proposal (*for a 50-year lease*), but expect slow progress.

Marketing Report: June income for golfing "specials" totaled **\$1829.76** (136p): 4 Coupon Specials* \$136.40...61 Youth golfers \$281.21...55 18-hole Military \$1,150.36 ... seven 9-hole Military \$100.48 ... four 18-hole 1st Responders \$84.80 ... and five 9-hole 1st Responders \$76.51. We'll begin offering specials to teachers later in the summer.

**Coupon Special is our Ad in the Journal (\$37 for 18-holes with a cart, plus includes wrap and beverage). These coupons expire July 31st. A new coupon special is planned to start in mid-July.*

Nancy M. said the Marketing Budget Request will be submitted for Fiscal 2021-22, but probably won't change much.

Phase 2 Café Wall: Nothing new on this. (It will be removed from the agenda until there's something to report.)

2021-22 Fiscal Budget Request (Greens):

(1) Vern said our budget request will include money for **PAVING** the remaining 5% of the **cart paths**.

(Current unpaved portions have been patched numerous times and are full of hazardous holes, etc.)

(2) We will be recommending purchase of four additional **GOLF CARTS**. Newer carts last longer than the older carts. The purchase would be for 3-4 yr old carts. We propose selling two of our 20-yr old golf carts, putting that money toward the purchase of the newer carts. [We have found that purchase of carts is a wise investment; with the pay-back being ~2 years; after that, it's "profit".]

(3) Reconstruct the practice area on the **3rd hole**. Proposal is to move the "Blue Tees" back behind the other tee-boxes (where the Sani-Can used to sit). We have the fill dirt, so it wouldn't cost much to do this (maybe **\$5K**). This would provide a better "dumping" area for maintenance and facilities. Plus we could also expand the practice chipping area, and it would no longer be in the way of regular play.

(4) Previously mentioned "Speed Bumps".

New Fees: Vern handed out a sheet with proposed increases for 2022 golfing fees. Increases would vary from \$1 (*daily play & cart rentals*) to \$5 (*annuals*) to \$10 (*punch cards, winter memberships, and cart shed rentals*). Consensus was increases seem reasonable; we don't want to price ourselves out of business. We'll finalize proposed fees next month.

Chamber Golf Tournament: Reminder we need to get our entry/fee in for the Chamber Golf Tournament at Alderbrook (Fri, Aug 20). We are sending a "LLCC Team" this year (Javier, Vern, Jason & Renie).

Congratulations to Renie Dyson who shot an EAGLE on LLCC's Hole #8 on July 5th (*using a 7 iron from 124 yards out*)!

Golf Pro: Discussion continued on the pros and cons of hiring a Golf Pro for Lake Limerick. All agreed that Ron Stull was the ideal Pro, and it will be hard to find a replacement like him. Joe Long said, if interviewing & hiring takes place, he'd be happy to offer his expertise to assist with the hiring process.

Adjourn: At 3:17 PM, Gayle Wilcox moved to: **ADJOURN**. Nancy Milliman seconded, and the motion PASSED.

NOTES BY ROBBIE