

LLCC Greens Committee Meeting MINUTES
Tuesday, March 7, 2023 (1:30 PM – Pro Shop Café)

ATTENDEES: Vern Duggan, Robbi Alberts, Ed Irvin, Lance Levine, Nancy Milliman, Gayle Wilcox, Gary Yando
[Excused: Joel Gray, Tim Magee, Sheila Nokes, Steve Saylor]

GUESTS: Mike Berni, Dean Dyson, John Ingemi

STAFF: Elen Gaschet DeL'isle, Javier Martinez, Roger Milliman

Vern called the meeting to order at 1:36 PM, and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Minutes: Gayle Wilcox moved to: **APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 7, 2023 GREENS COMMITTEE MEETING.** Lance Levine seconded, and the motion **PASSED.**

Greens Report: Javier reported February's weather was a challenge for his crew, with many days of lingering snow. They've kept the course groomed and playable most days through the winter, and are getting ready for Spring.

Things accomplished in February: Keeping an eye open for any diseases on the greens to stay on top of any situations ... trying to keep the course free of debris and safe from the weather ... mowing the greens & fairways, when weather permits ... continue working on tee-boxes on #3 (red/gold) and #8 (red) ... trimming trees on #4 & #3 ... removing stump on #3 ... removing blocks on #3 tee-box and filling in with dirt.

Things to be accomplished in March: Continue to watch for any diseases and spray again if needed ... work outside when weather permits; otherwise, catch up on projects inside ... continue working design on tee-boxes #3 & #8.

On March 9th, Javier said Coast Controls will be coming to work on our golf course irrigation at the pump house (installing two new variable frequency drives/VFD's, as approved by the Board under capital budget projects) ...

Javier said he plans to do aerification of the greens on March 22nd, weather permitting. Then crews will start punching fairways and tees, to get ready for spring.

Topics to discuss: As weather allows, the plan is to continue rebuilding tee-boxes on the course, and work on drainage.

Lance asked about bare spots on the #7 green? Javier said he plans to flatten out and try to improve that area.

And what about the standing water on the fairway side of #6 along the cart-path? Javier said this has been an issue for some time. He'll have his crews see what they can do to improve that drainage – as well as several other areas of standing water around the course. It may take some time, but the hope is to get all those areas fixed.

Lance also said he's noticed, while the rest of the course is ready to play, the green on #3 takes a long time to thaw. Perhaps we can look at trimming the trees to allow more sunlight on that green and speed up thawing, to increase revenue. Question was raised, if those trees are on Navy property, do we need their permission? Roger said we need permission to do anything on Navy property. (Then at the same time, should we also seek their permission to cut roots of any trees which are damaging our cart paths on their property, before we do any new asphaltting?)

Vern asked if crews could stop placing the flag on #1 in the worst spot, where even good chip shots roll down the hill several yards off the green? It was pointed out, this isn't a good first impression for public golfers on our course.

Pro Shop Report: Elen reported February was a successful financial month for the Pro Shop, driven by renewals. So far, 108 Annuals have been sold for the upcoming season (82 members, 7 of which are new ... and 26 public, 1 new). At this time last year, there were 110 annuals sold (80 members, 30 public). Elen said 18 members won't be renewing annuals (moved, don't golf enough, passed, health reasons, etc.) Six new members have helped offset that number.

It was suggested that members receive \$ credits for referring new annual sales to the public.

Of the 44 cart sheds, 3 have not yet paid – plus two more are available to rent (need to buy Annual to rent cart shed).

Despite poor weather during February, 58 carts were rented (\$713.35) plus rounds totaling \$780.43. Ten people took advantage of marketing/coupon specials. Winter rates have ended, the new increased rates are effective March 1st.

A tournament is planned for St. Paddy's Day ("Brats & Beer"). It was suggested, due to the wet weather forecast, that there be an option to play 9 holes instead of 18 (perhaps for Women's and Mixed Divisions?)

Men's and Ladies' Leagues begin play the first week of April. Everyone in the community is encouraged to come purchase LLCC logo clothing; new inventory is expected soon. Spread the word! (*NOTE: It arrived March 8th*)

Elen said she's staffing the Pro Shop on her own this week while other staff members are not available.

CAM Report: Roger Milliman reported YTD vs last year, Golf revenue is down 4% (mainly due to February's weather), but Café revenue is up 29%. The annual St. Andrews Open tournament luncheon is planned at the restaurant dining room.

Javier and Roger are meeting with LLCC's fertilizer supplier on Wednesday to discuss options to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations.

The Navy easement filing has yet to be accepted by Mason County and the office continues to work on that.

The Golf-Now G1 contract is signed with a planned process to cutover in 2 months

Vern asked Roger to let him know how much money has been spent out of our fundraising monies?

Comments from the Chair: Vern thanked everyone for their help on this committee. We're heading into a new season. We continue to make improvements that will convert to added revenue.

Marketing: Nancy said she hasn't yet heard from Mark about the latest on the status of an advertising banner on the HS fence. We've sold 103 calendars so far. There's been lots of snow on the course this past month, limiting play. However, twenty-four golf coupons have been turned in.

A new coupon will appear in the *Journal* in April. The *Fjord Magazine* came out and they gave us ½ page space (instead of the ¼ page we paid for). Hurray! But they forgot to update our logo & wording! Another issue will come out in May with an article providing an update on what's happening on our golf course. We'll also have an article in *Inside Golf*. And we've updated our sign to include the St. Paddy's Day tournament.

The Chamber's golf tournament at Alderbrook will be August 19th (no decisions on details of our participation yet). And we're waiting to hear when we'll host the Chamber's *Business After Hours* event (we've requested May thru Sept).

Lance wondered if we could work with other golf courses to reciprocate posting each other's tournament flyers? This would be free advertising. The Men's & Ladies leagues do this with our Shamrock & St. Andrews Open flyers.

OLD BUSINESS

3rd Hole Tee Box & Practice Area: When will we be opening it up? Vern said he'd like to shoot for the first part of April. Javier felt the chipping area would be ok to open then, but he wasn't sure about the new #12 tee-box? Vern didn't think we should use the current #12 tee-box where it is when the practice area opens. We need to finalize the policy covering rules & rates for the practice area. Vern said he'd like that finalized by our next meeting (April 4th).

Pond Cleanup: No report. (Javier said the approved blades were ordered and he has them in the shop.)

Tee-Box Update: The tee-boxes on #3 (red/gold) and #8 (red) have been re-constructed. Javier didn't think the grass would be ready to open them this year. Vern asked Javier to measure the square footage (including #9 white) so we can look at the cost of laying down sod, which would allow us to open these areas much sooner.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget, Capital Projects, priorities: Vern asked what projects should we consider and prioritize? (We should survey other golf courses). He noted this does not include Javier's "maintenance" projects.

Ideas put forth include: *Finish paving cart-paths ... Replace golf carts as needed (& buy batteries) ... Expand our putting green ... Re-do #8 Green ... Cover the patio area (with metal roof & sides?) ... Cover the driving range area ... Install more pads behind the driving range ... Get a Golf Simulator for use in winter months.*

Vern said that's a good list to work from. As we keep chipping away at the list, we keep improving the golf course.

Leaning Tree/Safety Hazard: Ed Irvin mentioned there's a tree that looks like it's getting ready to fall on the walking path between #4 tee-box to Penzance? Javier said he'd take a look.

New Carpet: Nancy said she'd like to put on the Inn Committee agenda finally replacing the carpet in the Pro Shop & Café. Nancy said they have visited other pro shops to see what durable flooring might work best. Consensus of today's group is new carpet is a good idea. Funding would come from the general fund.

Change of Hours: The Café will open on Wednesdays beginning in April; their hours are 7:30 to 3 PM. The Pro Shop is currently open 8 AM to 5 PM. April hours are 7 AM to 7 PM. And May thru August, hours are 7 AM to 8 PM.

Gary Yando questioned why something (like hot dogs) isn't offered on Tuesdays when there are a lot of hungry Men's League players golfing 18 holes? Could staff flex their days (i.e., open Tuesdays vs. Wednesdays)?

Adjourn: At 3:00 PM, Gayle Wilcox moved to: **ADJOURN**. Ed Irvin seconded, and the motion PASSED.

NOTES BY ROBBIE

[NOTE: No Board actions required by committee]