

LLCC Greens Committee Meeting MINUTES
Tuesday, December 5, 2023 (1:30 PM – Pro Shop Café)

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

GUESTS: Dean Dyson, John Ingemi

STAFF: Mark Hendricks, Javier Martinez

Vern called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. He noted that golf courses in Spokane are now closed for the winter.

Minutes: Gayle Wilcox moved to: **APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023 GREENS COMMITTEE MEETING**. Sheila Nokes seconded, and the motion **PASSED**.

Greens Report: Javier reported December is here and crews continue efforts to keep the course ready to play.

Things accomplished in November: Crews finished building the new tee-box on #4 (for blue, red & gold tees) ... mowed the fairways, tees and greens as weather permitted ... removed plenty of debris after strong winds & rain ... trimmed trees & bushes as needed to prevent damage to the course ... kept drains clear and in good working condition ... and lowered collar on putting green so water can run off and not pool up. Javier said the new employee, Omar, is doing pretty good and fits in well with his crew.

Things to accomplish in December: Cut the two trees on #3 & #8, weather permitting ... continue building up tee-boxes ... focus on drains to keep them in working order ... continue clearing debris from the course, so it is playable ... and focus on keeping the course in great condition.

Topics to discuss: With winter weather coming, workers will be working outside when they can; but there are plenty of projects inside to keep things in working order. This is also the time of year employees get a chance to use their vacation time. Javier said he's currently creating a list of projects that can be worked on next year. This has been a great year for all of us, and he's excited for the next year! Happy Holidays to everyone!

Javier was thanked for all his work and recognized for the progress he's made in his new job as Superintendent!

Sheila Nokes said on the 5th fairway, near her house, branches were picked up and propped against a tree. She wondered if workers could come pick up that debris.

Gayle Wilcox felt there are days when golfers shouldn't be on the course because of frost; we need to be firm about making sure the course isn't damaged by letting golfers out too soon. It was noted some other courses (e.g., Capital City) put out tarps on greens to keep them from freezing (*see later discussion*).

Asked about how drainage from the pond on #6 is, after work that was done, Javier said drainage seems to be good.

Pro Shop Report: Mark reported we had a beautiful day Friday, Dec 1st for golfers and our annual **Grounds Crew Benefit Tournament**. This year 25 golfers played a combination of a 9-hole fun tournament combined with the 18-hole Friday scramble. Donations were collected from 54 people, resulting in a good amount for our greens crews to help their families celebrate the holidays.

Mark said **bios & pictures of the crew** have been posted in the Pro Shop, allowing golfers & others in our community to get to know our employees.

Mark is working with Scott Eichhorn to partner with Wake-Up Espresso in offering a **series of golf tournaments** next season, on the third Saturday of the month. Hopefully this will attract more golfers to our course.

Sales were up 34% in November. Three **newer carts** arrived (all with Lithium batteries, which we haven't had before). We now only have five of the old green carts left.

The "12 Days of Holiday Deals" specials start on Saturday (*all deals are good through December 22*):

- Sat, 12/9/23: **Punch Card** special: For each Punch Card sold, get 1 free sleeve of Srixon balls.
- Sun, 12/10/23: New Golf member? Purchase a **new golf membership** for 2024 today, and receive 13 months instead of 12 months.
- Mon, 12/11/23: 20% off Club **Re-Grips**.
- Tues, 12/12/23: Free 2024 Lake Limerick **Calendar** when you spend \$30 on Pro Shop merchandise.
- Wed, 12/13/23: 30% off select **stocking stuffers** for the golfers in your family.
- Thur, 12/14/23: Buy one **meal** in the CAFÉ & get one meal for half price (excludes alcohol)
- Fri, 12/15/23: Buy a **\$100 gift certificate** and receive 9 Holes of Complimentary Golf.
- Sat, 12/16/23: 30% off all **Headwear**. Great Hats Galore!
- Sun, 12/17/23: Buy one round of **golf**, get one free.
- Mon, 12/18/23: Free **Cart Rental** with purchase of Greens Fees.
- Tues, 12/19/23: 25% off **everything** in the Pro Shop! Apparel and golf accessories!
- BONUS, 12/20-22, 23: Take advantage of **Any Special** you missed above, through 12/22/23!

[Donated cookies are welcome, for handing out throughout this event.]

Marketing: The latest *Fjord Magazine* is out with an ad about our 12 Days of Holiday Deals.

Lake Limerick's 2024 **Calendars** will arrive by the end of this week, and will go on sale for \$10 each. [Next year, calendars will be completed a month earlier, allowing folks to note their upcoming scheduled appointments.]

New **flooring** will be installed in the Pro Shop and the Café. A painting party will be held the morning before our next Greens Committee meeting (Tuesday, January 2nd). Looking for volunteers to paint. Also need volunteers to remove everything from the walls before they can paint.

[NOTE: The Pro Shop is closed for the holiday Jan 1, but prep work could be done the afternoon of Sun, Dec 31?]

Replacing signage: Joel will work with Christy to **replace signs**, noting where restrooms are located (cost <\$150).

CAM Report: None [NOTE: Roger Milliman's last day was Friday, December 1st.]

Comments from the Chair: Vern said he was very disappointed in this news about Roger. Lance felt the Greens Committee owes a great deal of **thanks to Roger** for all his support for our committee.

Vern said it's time to review our 2023 accomplishments and start thinking about our needs for next year. (1st draft):

Accomplishments for 2023:

- Record-setting revenues
- Named "Best Golf Course in Mason County" by *Journal* readers.
- Also Employees recognized: Café Chef Brian Marx, café lead Carianne, & Pro Shop Manager Mark Hendricks.
- Renovated three tee-boxes (#3, 8, 9), and added one new tee-box (#12).
- Opened new practice chipping area.
- Updated Irrigation System.
- Began work on removing unwanted vegetation from the pond.

Needs for next year:

- Tarps to cover greens (#3, #6, #9). By covering those three greens, our frost delays would be less severe by allowing us to open the course earlier for daily play.
- Continue work on cleaning out the pond of unwanted vegetation.
- Continue work on rebuilding more tee-boxes.
- Complete cart-path paving project when weather warms up (funding approved by HOA Board).
- Continue sanding program in fairways.
- Continue working on drainage issues throughout the course.
- Build hand-rail and steps from cart parking area up to practice pad for chipping green.

Wants for next year:

- Add a putt-putt course in the park, adjacent to the swing set & sports court ("Let's grow the game of golf at the putt-putt course!")
- Sell the last five green carts and replace them with newer 48-volt carts
- Continue adding volunteers in the Pro Shop and the course to help with gaps in staffing (& save LLCC money).

There are three **volunteers** right now helping out the Pro Shop staff. And Javier's crew not only maintains the golf course, but they help out on projects throughout the HOA community when labor is required (at parks, etc.). Flowers are all kept up by volunteers. Volunteers helped to rebuild the tee-boxes and remove vegetation from the pond.

Vern said he's proud of being Chair of the Greens Committee.

We have a **tractor** now that will be put to good use. It will help us use a piece of equipment that we had considered selling because we previously couldn't use it.

Regarding completion of the **cart-path paving project**, funding has been approved by the HOA Board & community, so Javier and Mark will be meeting with the company selected to get this project completed in spring/summer, when it warms up enough for laying the asphalt.

There was a question about rules for golfers using the **Handicap flags**? Some who use the flag think they can just drive anywhere they want, any time. Vern and Mark will research and make sure there is a "Handicap policy" in place.

Mark added, for our accomplishments, we have great **leadership** in our Men's and Women's Clubs. We should tip our hats to those who are running those clubs. Thanks to Gary and Robbi and others who lead those groups.

Adjourn: At 2:30 PM, Gayle Wilcox moved to: **ADJOURN**. Sheila Nokes seconded, and the motion PASSED.

NOTES BY ROBBIE

(NO motions requiring Board Action)