



La Grande Country Club Board Meeting Minutes September 21, 2022

Board Members in Attendance: Tiffany Sherman, Guy Weishaar, Bob Butler, Eric Yundt, Julie Hickerson, Mark Goss, Ron Arritola, Steve Wilcox, Terry Hughes, Charlene Counsell, and Joleen Moeller

Others in Attendance: Stuart Smart, Brent Austin, Katy Budlong, and Mike Poe (for the Finance portion)

The meeting was brought to order at 5:59 pm

Meeting Minutes: Mark Goss motioned for the August Board Meeting Minutes to be approved. Charlene Counsell seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the Minutes were approved.

Finance Committee:

- The finance committee proposed that the surround and fairway mowers be purchased outright and not financed.
 - Mike Poe reported that 2022 possible financial obligations totaled approximately \$205,000.
 - The insurance payment is not due till February 2023 and is covered by annual dues payments.
 - LGCC currently has \$223,000 in cash available, so all potential obligations can be covered without financing, leaving a \$20,000 cushion.
 - No financing would save money as current interest rates are over 5%.
 - LGCC would pay itself back monthly and with annual dues.
 - LGCC would continue to budget for next year and be debt free except for the gator, which is due to be paid off in February 2026.
 - Noted that some of the \$205,000 in financial obligations are not a done deal and can be postponed or decreased (cart sheds by having all 12 purchased).
 - Mark Goss moved to purchase the mowers outright. Terry Hughes seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed, and the mowers will be purchased in full and not financed.
- The finance committee proposed that the \$61,000 contingency fund be placed into CDs, Treasuries, or a Flourish Account to accrue interest.
 - CDs and Treasuries
 - Mike Poe informed the Board that a CD or Treasury is currently earning approximately 4%, and the fund could be divided into three and put in one, two, and three-year increments, so every year, \$20,000 would be matured.
 - Mark will contact Tanner Wilson at Edward Jones for their official rates.
 - CDs and Treasuries trade like bonds and are subject to interest rates.
 - If left to maturity, they will pay the guaranteed rate.
 - Money could be lost if cashed out early, as they are subject to interest rates.
 - If interest rates are higher, the CD will lose money; if interest rates are lower, the CD could gain money.
 - Flourish Saving Account
 - This savings account can be accessed anytime; funds are transferred directly between our main bank account, and there are no early withdrawal penalties.
 - Interest rates are at 2% vs. 4%
 - Concern was expressed about putting the fund into CDs or treasuries, as there could be a small risk to the principal balance if funds were pulled early.
 - Mark Goss made a motion to invest the contingency fund into CDs or Treasuries. The money will be divided into three parts, with approximately \$20,000 invested in one, two, and three-year commitments, or the recommended spread. Funds will be invested at the highest rate available per the recommendation of Tanner Willson at Edward Jones or Mike Poe. An email will be sent to the Board to confirm the proposal and interests chosen. Terry Hughes seconded the motion. All

were in favor, and the motion passed. Stuart Smart, Katy (Kathleen) Budlong, and Tiffany Sherman will be placed on the account as administrators.

- The finance committee recommended that any savings be put into a Flourish Account to earn interest.
 - Mark Goss moved that a Flourish Account be opened and any money in the LGCC savings account be placed into the account to earn the current interest rate. Tiffany Sherman, Stuart Smart, and Katy (Kathleen) Budlong will be signers/administrators on the account, with Katy Budlong named as the appointed person responsible for setting up the Flourish Account and managing funds as needed. Guy Weishaar seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.
- Everything else on the reports looks good.

Greens Committee:

- The Fairway Mower is in Spokane and will be delivered in a couple of weeks. The Surround Mower has not been delivered to Spokane yet.
- The course has been sprayed for grubs.
- The Member Workday is October 15th – The following are projects to complete:
 - Sand trap re-shape on both of the traps on #6
 - Traps will become “ground under repair” for winder play and work completed in the spring (3-4 people)
 - Replace the sand in the two traps on #2 (6-7 people)
 - LGCC sign project (provided needed materials are available)
 - Install a French drain on the #2 fairway
 - Fill holes from tree removal -mainly along the #8 fairway
 - This is a continuation of work that started two years ago.
- The county brought out a contractor to review spraying wild iris in the slew. Spraying will take place next month.
- The irrigation system needs some maintenance on its pumps and valves. Brent will do a survey of possible needs.
- The general condition of the course is very good.
- The grounds crew is down to three.
- Any effort of the membership to repair ball marks and divots is appreciated.
- It was suggested to extend the yellow tee boxes on #8. It has been discussed and is not currently on the plan, but more discussion will be had, and that could change.

House Committee:

- The ice machines were discussed more, and three quotes have been acquired for when the time arises.
- KC Kunckle will bring out some ideas for soundproofing the lower Clubhouse.
- The Halloween event is in the works.
- A walk-through will be held prior to the upcoming work day.
- Ron Arritola is still looking into the deck rail system and will report back when he is able to acquire the quote.
- Brooks Painting came in with the best bid for painting the back of the Lower Clubhouse and will proceed when they have an opening this fall or next spring. If needed, they said LGCC could pay next spring even if work is completed this fall.
- The asphalt sealing was completed; however, a semi-truck delivering sand to LGCC entered the driveway and caused damage. They had been instructed not to go in the parking lot and deliver out back. Joe Cunningham (asphalt contractor) will be back in town on Friday or Saturday and assess the damage, and the trucking/sand company will be contacted to discuss their liability and responsibility in the incident.

Membership Committee:

- Katy Budlong put together a New Member Orientation Handbook. It has been requested that the Board proof and offer suggestions and changes so that it can be finalized.
- Julie Hickerson, Alan Keffer, Stuart Smart, and Katy Budlong will put together an “orientation presentation” for new members. Once finalized, an LGCC representative will meet with all new members to give the “orientation presentation.”

Policy and By-Laws Committee:

- The dress code, as it has been an issue lately, was discussed.
 - Policy Manual states that “members and guests must wear appropriate golf attire at all times.”
 - The policy will be addressed, as members are currently allowed to wear non-golf attire in the Clubhouse; therefore, the policy will need to be changed to follow their rules.
 - Terry Hughes will look at it and present the suggested change at the next Board Meeting.

Tournament Committee:

- Tournaments are almost over for the season, with the Presidents Cup and the Members Scramble to finish out the season.
- Past tournaments have been successful this season.

Ladies Association:

- The burgers for the tournaments profited \$1,200.
- Lunches were made for the Eastside Seniors, but without the turnout in past years. Hopefully, next year will be more successful with word of mouth about the quality of the lunches.
- The Ladies Stagette will be held on Wednesday, September 28th.
- It was suggested in the Ladies Meeting that the windows in the Lower Clubhouse will have valance or curtains; it was agreed to leave the windows as is, with no window treatments.
- Sound paneling is still being discussed, as well as replacing the mirror above the fireplace.

Pro Report:

- The official bid for the cart sheds came in at \$57,000 for twelve cart sheds (\$4,750 per shed).
- Steve Wilcox moved that Stuart could proceed to sell eleven-year leases for all twelve cart sheds. Sheds can be sold one per member until November 15th, at which time members will have the option to purchase additional sheds if all twelve have not been sold. Terry Hughes seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Old Business:

- Bar and food prices have been reviewed and increased where appropriate.

New Business:

- Employment reviews were discussed, with a concern that they were not happening and that there was no specific form for evaluations.
- Katy Budlong stated that a form had been created for all staff, and evaluations were happening annually for internal management and staff. Katy will send the form to Julie Hickerson and Ron Arritola to adjust for an evaluation form for the General Manager, as the Board would be in charge of that review.
- Employee evaluations are an essential tool, including self-evaluations, peer evaluations, and evaluations of the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm

Respectfully Submitted by
Katy Budlong – Secretary/Treasurer