

**VGCSA Board Meeting**

**Farmington Country Club, Charlottesville, VA**

**August 10, 2017**

**9:00 Am Start**

**Minutes***Tyler Eastham, David Norman, Steven Ball, Bill Keene, Sean Baskette, Mark Cote, Eric Spurlock  
Pete Stephens, Aaron Wells, Jeff Whitmire, Jeff Holliday, Scott Mauldin, Ed Eagle*

1. Call to Order – 9:05
2. Approval of Minutes – **Need to post current bylaws to website.** Motion: Sean Baskette, 2nd: Bill Keene
3. Treasurer’s Report – Jeff Whitmire
   1. Investment accounts are doing well
   2. Dues are down from last year a little bit as cash basis – invoices usually deleted in September for those not paid
   3. David Norman notes – Two locals are above budget, Two locals below, One flat
   4. Motion: Sean Baskette, 2nd: Scott Mauldin
4. External VP Reports
   1. Pete Stephens – TTA
      1. Fall schedule – still working on locations for September
      2. Joe Saylor – JRCC
      3. Annual meeting – late October or early November
   2. Scott Mauldin - ODGCSA
      1. 3x $1,000 scholarship applications
      2. TE will add to weekly email, send stand-alones
      3. Tim Hiers for fall Conference – ODGCSA portion
   3. Sean Baskette - VTA
      1. Fundraiser in May, successful
      2. Salem RedSox – Aug 26th, usually well attended 20-30 people
      3. EOY meeting – potentially Ballyhack – no date yet
   4. Aaron Wells - GWGCSA
      1. Maintenance Open well attended in July
      2. Next week, social event in Gainesville
      3. Sept. 26 – Par-three challenge, two man teams – pending location
      4. October 23, Super/Asst. Challenge, Springfield CC
      5. October 30, Assistants Forum at Belmont
   5. Ed Eagle – SVTA
      1. Meeting in June at Blue Ridge – 15 people – good conversation
      2. October 20, fundraiser at Caverns CC
5. Event Review – David Norman
   1. VGCSA Championship
      1. Great Event, exciting, playoff between Whitmire and Yancey – Whitmire 8-time winner, Garrison Fowler won assistant’s division, Jim Wilson won vendor division and Bobby Friend won senior division
   2. National Golf Day
      1. April 26th, MAAGCS did community service project on National Mall, GCSAA officers working as volunteers, impressive team work
      2. Visited legislators, Dave Brat, Mark Warner
      3. Most people attended from around the nation ever
   3. Virginia Tech Turfgrass Research Classic
      1. Bill Keene – record breaking amount of funds raised, very well attended, filled up 2 golf courses at CCV, sponsorship committee was very successful getting support, exceeded expectations of what it would be in the first year, pressure to be as successful next year
      2. Next year is planned for Independence
      3. Current plan for next year is 8:00 shotgun and 1:00 shotgun
         1. Mark Cote suggests Championship course shotgun and short course shotgun at the same time – one serious tournament and one fun tournament, or combination of short course 9 and long course 9
      4. Salisbury could be an option for a second golf course
      5. Silent Auction was not successful – we need to ramp it up next year
      6. Mark Cote mentioned that Jack Higgins of Earthworks is on the committee for Rutgers tournament, may be a good resource for planning next year
         1. Auction next year should focus less on product and more on neat items – sporting event tickets, dinners, signed memorabilia, fishing trips, hunting trips, resort stays, golf
         2. Steven Ball mentions making a reach out “Hackin Hokies” association for VA golf nuts, as a possible place to get silent auction donations and tournament support
   4. Joint Meeting at Two Rivers – Mark Cote
      1. Joint with CMAA
      2. Topic was H2B – very good meeting, Keith Fabian was the expert speaker
      3. TE & DN can post H2B info on website and newsletter
   5. Joint Meeting at Willow Oaks
      1. Craft Beer meeting – good networking
6. Partner Update – David Norman
   1. Right around Budget
   2. DN following up on collections
7. GCSAA Update
   1. Rounds4Research - $2,551 raised for VA – around 20 courses donated, very few high profile courses donated – GCSAA had the best year ever as a national fundraiser
      1. DN suggests we make R4R inclusive to our VT Research tournament – give 20% of golf auction proceeds to GCSAA – If done, VGCSA would need a percentage of funds raised for the R4R portion so supplement the Gov’t relations fund since that is where R4R dollars were going in the past
   2. Chapter Delegates Meeting
      1. Very good meeting, leadership talk by guy from Navy Seals
      2. National GCSAA staff addressed everyone with updates
   3. Chapter Delegates Meeting - Mark Cote going this year - November 7 - 8.

* 1. 2018 GCSAA Social Event (San Antonio)
     1. Prices are higher than last time in SA
     2. Social event will be good, may need to adjust the menu to keep the costs down
     3. DN will work on getting a $199 or lower hotel and negotiate with them on the social event for a break
     4. Suggested by board to get rid of liquor drinks
  2. Chapter Assessment Report
     1. Jeff Holliday mentions meeting attendance is a struggle– everything else we are doing pretty well
     2. Mark wants to renew the strategic plan and budget for it.

1. Annual Conference Education
   1. Separate worksheet lists schedule and speakers
   2. Location phenomenal, speakers are very good, pub for the social event, hotel rooms $99 each
   3. USGA doing a colorant workshop the day before our conference for free if anyone wants to attend
   4. Cale Bigelow – Choose 2 of 5 topics
      1. Student pipeline – Tuesday
      2. Fairway grass selection
      3. Water use
      4. Bentgrass putting greens
      5. Organic nutrition programs – Mark Cote, Jeff Holiday, Sean Baskette (Monday)
   5. Tim Hiers – Challenges and Opportunities (Tuesday)
   6. Bob Helland – Gov’t Update (Tuesday)
   7. USGA – still looking for representor – may get Elliott or Addison – don’t need year end in review – VGCSA board can come up with specific points when the date gets closer
   8. Energy Management – Everette Fortner
2. Scholarships
   1. Buy Sod Program – 1% of all VA sales to go to scholarship tournament
   2. LSI fall promotion – Mark Cote spoke with Kevin Connelly about a scholarship for children of superintendents to be funded in a different way – during early order, buyer asks LSI to donate a % of the rebate given by LSI to go to the scholarship fund - look into doing this in 2018 – Each super has option to allocate this rebate money to the scholarship fund
   3. Board is good with trying this new scholarship program
3. Committee Reports
   1. Assistants (Forum) – Steven Ball
      1. October 30, Belmont Country Club in Ashburn
      2. Match VGCSA vs MAAGCS
      3. Topic – **Etiquette**: playing with members, in dining facility, committee meetings, etc. – keeping relations between Superintendents, Pros, Members
      4. Trying to get a formal commitment from Bobby Wadkins to do a clinic / talk – potential to get Vinny Giles as well
      5. Would like superintendents and a golf pro on a panel for discussion of etiquette
         1. Possible Kevin Haney from Spring Creek as the golf pro
         2. Brian Vincel from Spring Creek is a suggested Super for the panel
   2. Awards – Aaron Wells
      1. Awards for annual meeting and Scholarships
      2. Buy Sod Scholarship
      3. Aaron will communicate with Erik Ervin for nominations – David will need to know nominations and voted on by November meeting
      4. Sean Baskette suggests each local nominate someone for Distinguished Service and Environmental Award – External VPs then vote on the winner
   3. Communications – in good shape
   4. Golf - Whitmire
      1. Committee – Jeff Yarborough, Brent Graham, Dick Fisher
         1. Would like to do a match play event – net – USGA handicap, put in newsletter that everyone that wants to participate must have a handicap. Will iron out details
      2. Saylor
         1. David Norman working with Jeff Whitmire on BEO
      3. Virlina Cup – October 1-3 – The Highlands, NC
         1. Team has been completed
            1. Cameron Yancey is out
            2. Jeff Whitmire will be the playing captain
            3. Need shirt sizes

Jeff Whitmire

Garrison Fowler

Jeff Yarborough

Chip Bass

Matt Zarnstorff

Brent Graham

Scott Cornwell

Trevor Hedgepeth

Captain - Jeff Holliday

* 1. Government Relations (Voluntary Pollinator Protection) – Pete Stephens
     1. VDAC – they have BMP pollinators – possibly put on our website as general information
     2. Ed Eagle mentioned Dr. Wang is a good speaker on pollinators if you have any questions
  2. Membership – BOD to look through delinquent dues and let David Norman know of anyone gone, moved, etc…
  3. Nominating - No Report
  4. Research - No Report
  5. Survey
     1. Some confusion about the budget questions and when the survey will close – DN will ask Gil Grattan to clarify
  6. Mid-Atlantic Golf Council (2018 Regional Conference) – March 5-6
     1. Jeff Holliday and committee working on the event
     2. Looking for one big sponsor – possibly VGM as the key sponsor 5K? to offset individual costs
     3. Chris Harriman (MAAGCS) and Jamie Conkling doing F&B
     4. VIP event, night before
  7. Website - No Report

1. Old Business / New Business
   1. Green Industry Survey – Gil Grattan’s survey – need to get superintendents to participate – will continue to promote – maybe a stand-alone email
   2. NMP status – 39 clubs have not begun the NMP
   3. Adopt a Highway Program
      1. Mark Cote did the program and the Homestead and Aaron Wells does it at Belmont CC.
      2. If a club is on a VDOT road they should be participating.
      3. We will promote the program in the weekly eLetter
   4. 2018 Video – promo video about what we do as an industry and in superintendent profession. We could show to legislators. Seek GCSAA grant for 2018
   5. Jack Hall is retiring from VTF – VGCSA should nominate someone to fill his place
2. Executive Session - Not Needed
3. Adjourn – 11:23 am