



**La Grande Country Club  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023: 5:30 pm**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Tiffany Sherman, Guy Weishaar, Bob Butler, Eric Yundt, Julie Hickerson, Ron Arritola, Steve Wilcox (by phone), Terry Hughes, and Charlene Counsell (by phone)

**Others in Attendance:** Stuart Smart, Katy Budlong, Sam Royes, and Lance Adams (guest speaker)

The meeting was brought to order at 5:30 pm

**Meeting Minutes:**

- Bob Butler motioned for the February Board Meeting Minutes to be approved. Guy Weishaar seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the Meeting Minutes were approved.

**Finance Committee:**

- The Edward Jones: Madeline Hedden Junior Golf Fund has been added to assets.
- The savings account and contingency fund accounts at Banner Bank have been closed.

**Greens Committee:**

- Member Work Day is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.
- The grounds crew is working on trimming up the willows.

**House Committee:**

- No House report.
- Stuart Smart is working on the small project list.
- March Bingo had a Jackpot Winner!

**Membership Committee:**

- The Club is getting some interest from prospective members, with one new member joining in March.

**Policy and Bylaws Committee:**

- Bylaws: No content change that would affect members. Changes to flow, punctuation, and readability approved.
- Policy Manual: On Hold as the guest speaker, Lance Adams, arrived.

**INSURANCE GUEST SPEAKER:**

- Lance Adams from Bisnett Insurance joined to review the policy and give feedback on future insurability.
- LGCC was insured by Western National, a well-respected, reputable company.
  - This is not a golf program, so there are limitations to unique exposures and coverage regarding damage to the golf course, tee boxes, greens, pollution, etc.
  - Golf programs offer "tee to green coverage," which is not available in other insurance companies.
  - The new sprinkler system and controls are covered, but the underground piping will not be covered.
- Directors and Officers, as well as Employee coverage, is offered under the Directors and Officers program. Some coverage regarding employees is offered through Western National.
  - Employment protection for worker's compensation or suit regarding unlawful termination, hiring practices, improper pay, or other issues would be covered regarding defense and penalty payments.
  - Third-party, vendor, and guest harassment is covered.

- Liability coverage for employees involved in an accident while performing tasks off company property in their own vehicles is covered. It would protect the Club in the case of a suit due to the accident. The employee's insurance is responsible for any damage to themselves and their vehicle.
- The additions, updated property values, and equipment had little to no effect on the increase in policy premiums.
- MAIN ISSUE: Age of Clubhouse and lack of sprinkler system.
  - The premium cost to insure structures has increased drastically, mostly due to wildfires.
  - Eastern Oregon has taken a substantial hit in rate increases.
  - This is a global issue, but Eastern and Central Oregon is being affected due to the environment.
  - If the clubhouse could be retrofitted with a sprinkler system, acquiring a golf program insurance plan with better rates may be possible.
  - Without a sprinkler system, it may not be an issue of high insurance rates but of being unable to acquire ANY insurance plan. LGCC may become uninsurable in the next few years without this.
  - Rates may or may not increase/decrease with the sprinkler system, but without it, the opportunity for insurance plans may disappear.
  - A sprinkler system would change our rating system for insurance plans.
    - Golf programs use different rating plans, which could give LGCC more options.
  - The entire clubhouse would need to be retrofitted, and it was not recommended to do one part at a time, such as the upper clubhouse first, then the lower clubhouse, but do it all at once.
- Non-profit status: this only came up in one insurance company, Mutual of Enumclaw.
- Another insurance issue was the lack of intrusion, theft, and fire alarms in the maintenance and equipment sheds. Katy Budlong and Stuart Smart will address that issue.
- Western National only stepped up to offer the Club an insurance plan due to Lance Adams's affiliation with them. Hopefully, they will be available again, but there is no guarantee.
- Electrical Inspections: An electrical inspection should only be done if an insurance plan requests it; there is no need to spend money until required.
- Pump and panels on the new policy: the baked and dipped motor is covered based on value.
- Equipment is covered on a cash basis and assessed by usage and hours.
- It is recommended to get quotes on the retrofitted sprinkler system.

**Policy and Bylaws Committee (continued):**

- Additions to the policy manual:
  - Code of Conduct
  - Membership Expulsion, Termination, Discipline, and Complaints
  - Minor children responsibility
  - Liability
- Changes to flow, punctuation, and readability.
- Julie Hickerson moved to accept the policy manual changes as is. Ron Arritola seconded the motion, and all were in favor, and the changes were approved.

**Tournament Committee:**

- The Tiger Booster Tournament requested to move from September to August. However, the Board did not approve this move as it would limit the number of weekends open to member play due to already scheduled tournaments in August.
- All tournament forms are updated and on the website.

**Ladies Association:**

- The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm.
  - Help is needed to fill eggs on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm, decorate on April 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am, and Hide eggs on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm.

- The Annual Fundraiser will be held on April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Ladies' Golf Season will begin on May 3<sup>rd</sup> with a luncheon at 12:30 pm, scramble, and clinic hosted by Stuart Smart.

**Pro Report:**

- The basement is being cleaned, sorted, and cleared of junk and old papers.
- Mike Becker is still on for installing the poles along the driving range.
- The carpet on the stairs and landing is scheduled for March 20<sup>th</sup>.
- There will be three free ladies' clinics starting on May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- The Member-Member Chapman will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Annual Meeting:**

- The Annual Meeting will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.
- Committee reports need to be submitted to Katy Budlong by April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The ladies association has already held its annual elections, and terms will start in April.

**Old Business:**

- The text messaging system is being set up. Members will need to opt-in to receive text messages. Notifications will go out, with multiple ways to sign up.

**New Business:**

- Stuart Smart Contract:
  - Tiffany Sherman and Guy Weishaar met with Stuart and went over his 360 employee evaluations, and they recommended a 2.76% increase.
  - Eric Yundt moved to approve the 2.76% increase retroactive to February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and Guy Weishaar seconded the motion, and all were in favor, and the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm