

BBVCC Golf Committee

Minutes June 12, 2014

Attendance:

- a. **Present:** Bill Begue, Ron Bogen, Rob Goodman (Chairperson), Al Hawks, Jim MacMillan, Ueli Nussbaum, John Schaefer (Vice Chairperson), Jim Smolik (Liaison to Board), Jim Toomey
- b. **Absent:** : Bill Quick (Liaison to Greens Keeper)
- c. **Visiting:** Steve Brand, Ken Hoffer, Joe Holdridge, Peter Winterfeld (Board Liaison)

1. Call to Order: 2:00 pm

2. Approval of the Agenda:

- a) It was:
 - i) **Moved** by Al Hawks
 - ii) **Seconded** by Jim Smolik
 - iii) **Carried to** approve the agenda as written.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a) It was:
 - i) **Moved** by Jim Smolik
 - ii) **Seconded** by Jim Toomey
 - iii) **Carried to** adopt the minutes of May 22, 2014 as written.

4. Greens Keeper Report: Steve Brand

- a) Comments included:
 - i) Steve has spent a bit of time recently helping with the 5-year plan;
 - ii) A few dead trees were taken down;
 - iii) The bridge between #1 and #2 seems to be in need of repair. Ken Hoffer mentioned that a welder has already looked at it.

5. Golf Shop Manager's Report: Joe Holdridge

- a) Joe presented a summary of rounds played and daily green fees collected for the years 2012 and 2013. Also summarized were similar figures for May 2012, 2013, and 2014. The numbers presented were:

Item	2013	2012
Membership	209	229
Punch Cards	34	42
Sponsored Membership	15	3
Member 9 hole Rounds	4,822	5,140
Member 18 hole rounds	2,704	2,515
Guest 9 hole rounds	1,351	1,423
Guest 18 hole rounds	551	701
Total 18 hole Equivalent rounds	6,342	6,498
9 hole fees collected	\$17,566	\$19,296
18 hole fees collected	9,324	11,870
Punch card fees total	4,080	5,040
Daily fees collected	\$30,970	\$36,206

Item	May 2014	May 2013	May 2012
Member 9 hole Rounds	749	684	481
Member 18 hole rounds	430	335	94
Guest 9 hole rounds	121	101	93
Guest 18 hole rounds	64	106	28
Total 18 hole Equivalent rounds	929	834	409
9 hole fees collected	\$1,731	\$1,632	\$1,197
18 hole fees collected	1,234	1,485	500
Daily fees collected	\$2,965	\$3,117	\$1,697
Punch card fees total	\$290	\$120	

- b) Joe also mentioned that he has detailed accounting of the funds collected and expenses for the Men's Club, the Ladies Club and the Couples Club. A summary of those figures for 2014 is as follows:

Item	Men's Club	Ladies Club	Couples Club
Number of members	52	28	68
Annual membership fee	\$23	\$18	\$2.50
Membership fees collected	\$1,196	\$504	\$170
Beginning Balance	-	-	(\$35)
Income			
\$1 entry each week + net raffle funds	-	-	433
Expenses			
Coffee for Season	200	-	-
\$1 per player each week paid into prize pool	438	108	-
Prizes (Golf Balls)	-	-	181
Balance June 12, 2014	\$758	\$396	\$217

6. BBV Manager's Report: Ken Hoffer

- a) Zac is now working on the Golf course on Mondays and Fridays.
- b) Ken received the updated BBVCC Golf Course Rules and Regulations from Rob Goodman, and will arrange for these to go to the Board of Directors at their next meeting scheduled for June 19, 2014.
- c) Ken stated that Harry Shearer asked that he expand on the issue of irrigating the course as discussed at the last meeting. Essentially, it would do more harm than good to use ground water or water from the ponds to water the grass on the golf course.
- d) The first budget meeting of the Board is scheduled for July 18, 2014.

7. BBV Board Liaison Report: Peter Winterfeld

- a) Peter stated that he is generally in favor of items that generate revenue for the Village.
- b) Peter stated that we need to let people into the Village, as guests of members, to help keep our exempt status (non-profit).

8. Financial Business

a) 5 year Plan

A comprehensive draft BBV Golf Course 5-Year Program Plan was distributed.

This Program Plan included:

- i) a list of Course Improvement Projects;
- ii) a detailed list showing Annual Course Maintenance projects together with an estimated yearly budget of \$77,500.00; and
- iii) an Appendix showing On-going Maintenance Activities.

John Schaefer described the extensive process that the subcommittee went through to create this document. This process included seeking input from over 200 members of the BBVCC Golf Club, creating a summary of all the feedback received, several meetings to classify, narrow the potential projects down to 10 projects and to prioritize those projects.

Jim MacMillan reviewed the Course Improvement Projects:

- I. Two Tiered Green on #9 for playability.
- II. Redesign area around Pro Shop for safety reasons to include improved traffic patterns, parking of carts, and provide a covered seating area.
- III. Extend green on #15 for playability including new bunker to collect drainage.

- IV. Restroom behind 6th green near the road. While this project would benefit the Golf Course, this should be a Village Project, not a project specific to the Golf Course, since it would also benefit the Village as a whole.
- V. Short iron practice area east of 9th fairway.
- VI. Sod Farm (preparation and irrigation).
- VII. New green at #1.
- VIII. Block wall on #7 tee box.

There was quite a lot of discussion of the Course Improvement Projects which included the following:

- Ken Hoffer indicated that previous research into placing a prefabricated washroom with 1 stall & 1 storage room near the Marina would cost approximately \$30,000.
- Ken Hoffer stated that the patio cover built onto the clubhouse cost approximately \$41,000, which included the engineering, architect, and construction cost.
- Ken stated that if the Board considers the cost of any project to be too much to fund in any one year, the Golf Committee could request that a portion of the cost go into the capital reserve of the Village. The next year, the Golf Committee could make a similar request, so that hopefully, after a period of a few years, there would be enough funds in the capital reserve to fund the project in its entirety.
- No cost estimate had been made for item II. (Redesign area around Pro Shop), since it was thought that we need a landscape or golf course architect to design a plan first. Jim Toomey thought that we could hire a golf course architect for less than \$5,000 to prepare a design for the area around the Pro Shop, and perhaps a comprehensive plan for the entire course.
- The priority order of the course improvement projects was discussed, with consideration of reversing the order of items I. (Two Tiered Green on #9) and item II. (Redesign area around Pro Shop).

After discussion and consideration, it was:

- i) **Moved** by Jim Toomey
- ii) **Seconded** by Al Hawks
- iii) **Carried to** adopt the BBV Golf Course 5-Year Program Plan with the following two changes:
 - 1st. Change the priority order of the Course Improvement Projects so that the first item is the Redesign area around Pro Shop and the second item is Two Tiered Green on #9.
 - 2nd. Insert \$5,000.00 as a Budget for the cost of hiring an architect to provide a plan for the Redesign of the area around the Pro Shop, and perhaps a comprehensive plan for the entire course.

John Schaefer suggested that a review of the BBV Golf Course 5-Year Program Plan be included on the agenda for all future meetings of the Golf Committee.

The Golf Committee also considered the issues identified by the subcommittee as “Quick Kill” issues for Golf Committee consideration. These were:

- i. Replace some plastic chairs that are brittle and falling apart; provide additional chairs and tables as sufficient to seat the entire Friday Night Couples Group.

Ken Hoffer said the Village has a fund to replace existing chairs, but that additional furniture must be requested and budgeted by the Board. He will consider replacing furniture as necessary.

- ii. Provide standard recycle bins.

Ken Hoffer said the Village has already provided standard garbage cans for this purpose and they have been labeled “plastic only” and “glass only”.

- iii. A redesign of sorts to have the first tee start on hole number 4. Make hole #4 the first hole, #1 the 7th hole and # 3 the ninth hole.

This was considered by the Committee. Given that we would need to replace upwards of 10 granite hole markers just purchased within the last few years (at a cost of several thousand dollars), and the fact that this so called ‘redesign’ was tried years ago but subsequently reversed back to the current layout, this issue was not approved.

- iv. Install gold tee box markers for the ladies #15 to make possible being on the green in two shots.

The issues involved in doing this would include the need to have a special slope and rating for this, and the hole was not considered to be a long par 4, so this issue was not approved.

- v. Remove the fence at the 6th tee box.

The Committee was told that the fence was in need of repair. The Committee approved the suggestion to remove the fence.

b) Comparison of local green fees

A comparison of green fees at Birch Bay Village to green fees at other local courses was distributed and reviewed.

It was noted that it is not possible to do a direct comparison because most of the other courses are full sized 18 hole courses, none of them are privately owned, and all of the other courses are for-profit courses.

Given the limitations on the comparison, the consensus of the Committee was that the green fees at Birch Bay Village are not unreasonable compared to the green fees at other local courses.

The Committee commented that we don't want our green fees to increase or our members may want to play elsewhere, on a full sized course, thus creating a loss of revenue to our Village.

Ken Hoffer stated that he thought our daily green fees seemed appropriate compared to other local courses, and that members get a good deal on the Annual golf pass, just as members who moor a boat get a good deal on marina fees, so we shouldn't complain too much about our golf fees or the marina fees.

It was:

- i) **Moved** by Jim Toomey
- ii) **Seconded** by John Schaefer
- iii) **Carried to** unanimously recommend to the Board that all fees for the golf course remain unchanged for 2015.

Peter Winterfeld stated that the Village has about \$900,000 to \$1,000,000 of salaries to pay each year, and that costs always rise. He also stated that it will be hard for the Board to justify budget increases for the golf course if there are no green fee increases.

9. Other Business

a) **Course Rating (rating/slope)**

Jim MacMillan stated that the course should be re-rated at least every 10 years, and that it has been more than 5 years since it was last rated. His understanding is that the WSGA will send someone out to play the course and re-rate the course. There should be no cost to do this. It is likely that new score cards would need to be prepared as a result of any re-rating.

Jim Smolik agreed to contact the WSGA regarding this.

b) Hole Rating (for handicap purposes)

The Committee also thought that a review of the individual hole ratings should be performed. It was stated that this would probably be done as part of the re-rating by the WSGA, but if not, it was agreed that the Committee would arrange for this to be done.

c) Acknowledgement of volunteer work on the course

The Committee noted that when one of the maintenance staff was off work recently due to a medical condition, Bill Quick increased the amount of time he volunteered on course maintenance. By some accounts, Bill worked an average of more than 30 hours per week, for upwards of 3 weeks. Bill worked full time on golf course maintenance on a volunteer basis. This was considered to be above and beyond the normal amount of time a volunteer in the Village works.

The Committee asked Ken Hoffer and Peter Winterfeld if they thought the Board of Directors would consider an appropriate acknowledgement to recognize Bill's effort.

Ken Hoffer stated that there are many volunteers in the Village, and that in his opinion, the Board would have a difficult time giving any one volunteer something substantial.

Peter Winterfeld stated that he instituted a wooden plaque program which provides a plaque to deserving volunteers in the Village which is effectively an "appreciation award".

It was:

- i) **Moved** by Jim MacMillan
- ii) **Seconded** by John Schaefer
- iii) **Carried to** unanimously recommend to the Board that Bill Quick be the recipient of an appropriate acknowledgment from the Board for his extensive volunteer efforts.

10. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting of the Golf Committee was scheduled for Thursday July 10, 2014 at 7:00 pm in the pro shop.

It was agreed to start the next Golf Committee meeting at 7:00 pm on a test basis in order to accommodate other members of the Village, some of whom have indicated a desire to attend such meetings. Ken Hoffer agreed to notify the Village of this start time through his regular emails.

11. Meeting Adjourned: 3:50 pm

Minutes Approved: _____ Date: _____

Rob Goodman, Chairperson

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