

BBV Golf Committee

Minutes September 11, 2015

Attendance:

- a) **Present:** Herb Beitel, Don Gardner, Rob Goodman (Chairperson), John Schaefer (Vice Chairperson), Jim Smolik (Board Liaison), Joan Tape
- b) **Absent:** Bill Begue, Ron Bogen, Al Hawks,
- c) **Visiting:** Steve Brand, Al Koch, Jim MacMillan, Don Hubert (Board Member)

1. **Call to Order:** 2:00 pm

2. **Approval of the Agenda:**

- a) It was:
 - i) **Moved** John Schaefer
 - ii) **Seconded** by Don Gardner
 - iii) **Carried** to approve the agenda as written.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

- a) It was:
 - i) **Moved** Herb Beitel
 - ii) **Seconded** Jim Smolik
 - iii) **Carried** to adopt the minutes of August 14, 2015 as written.

4. **Greens Keeper Report:** Steve Brand

- a) Steve stated that a some of the projects scheduled to be completed in the near future include:
 - Putting sand in the new bunkers on 5;
 - Punching fairways and tees.

5. **Golf Shop Manager's Report: Al Koch**

- a) Al Koch stated that in general, June numbers were down from last year. The numbers forwarded for inclusion in the minutes are: (pending)

- b) Al stated that several new residents of the village have visited the pro shop asking about golf, so he is hopeful that some of them will become members next year.
- c) The idea of encouraging staff of the Village to play golf was mentioned, and Al stated that some employees of the Village do play golf and receive complementary green fees. The Golf Committee was not aware that employees of the Village receive complementary green fees. It was thought that this was a reasonable, low cost perk to provide employees, and after discussion the Golf Committee unanimously agreed that the practice of providing employees of the Village with complementary green fees should continue.
- d) Al stated the Ernie Hutchins, Joe Holdridge and Al Koch have discussed, and decided to pursue the idea of starting a Whatcom County Junior Golf program, modeled somewhat on the Birch Bay Village Junior Golf program. Ernie was previously involved with junior golf in California.
- e) Al stated that Ken Hoffer has approached him about rewriting their contract to specify that the pro shop remain open in the winter. Al is considering keeping the pro shop and the Chill Out cafe open from 10:00 am till 6:00 pm during the winter.
- f) It was noted that someone had changed the sign posted outside the pro shop to state that the cost to play golf when the pro shop is closed using the "honest box" is \$14.00. This is considered a "winter rate", and historically has been good for all day play. The sign previously read \$10.00. The Golf Committee was not advised of this change. The Golf Committee also noted that in the last 3 years, they do not recall discussing, or making a recommendation to the Board what the winter rate should be.

After discussion,

It was:

- i) **Moved** Don Gardner
- ii) **Seconded** by Jim Smolik
- iii) **Carried** to recommend to the Board that the winter rate should be \$14.00 per day (which is the recommended 2016 rate for 9 holes during the summer) and the winter rate should be effective from November 1 through to March 31, regardless of whether the pro shop is open or not.

6. BBV Manager's Report: Ken Hoffer

- a) Manager not in attendance.

7. BBV Board Liaison Report: Don Hubert

- a) Don Hubert said that he found out recently that some residents of Birch Bay drive by the entrance to the Village, see a gate house, and think that residents of Birch Bay Village are a bunch of snobs who live in a gated village. Don stated that we should try to do what we can to change this perception. He suggested we reach out to the greater community, and maybe have a non-members golf day or a golf tournament. It was noted that some of the

current tournaments that involve non-members include Whatcom Seniors, Raspberry Ridge and Christ the King sponsored tournament. It was also noted that since this is a private course, owned by members of the Village, we need to be mindful of opening up the course too often to non-members. Since Jim MacMillan (president of the Golf Club) was in attendance, he was asked to take this up with the Golf Club.

8. Financial Business - 5 year Plan

a) **5 year Plan**

John Schaefer stated that the Golf Club had recently requested ideas for improvements to the golf course, and that he emailed a list of suggestions to the members of the Golf Committee.

9. Other

a) **Proposed redesign of area around pro shop**

Rob Goodman stated that the current plans for the redesign are that Al Koch and Rob Goodman will stake out and define the location for the new patio and new cart paths leading to the parking lot. We hope to have it completed in time for the Committee to review at the next meeting scheduled for October 9, 2015.

If the budget gets approved, and funding becomes available for a new patio, Steve Brand has agreed to take the lead on this project and work with contractors to supply and install the new patio and some new cart paths. Al Koch and Rob Goodman will try to assist as necessary.

Don Hubert reminded the Committee that the Village will require a Statement of Work (SOW) before this project proceeds.

b) **Revised Local rules**

Rob Goodman had updated and distributed the Local Rules to include the motion made and passed at the last Committee meeting.

It was:

- i) **Moved** Joan Tape
- ii) **Seconded** by Don Gardner
- iii) **Carried** to adopt the updated Local Rules dated August 2015 as distributed.

c) Power Carts

Jim Smolick mentioned that power carts drive in certain areas on the course and wondered if a sign should be put up to discourage carts from being driven there. Steve Brand indicated that he was not concerned about carts there, that he himself drives his power cart there. Steve also reminded the Committee that he has told the Committee in the past that the placement of signs that say “no power carts” actually wears out and kills the grass in that area because many power carts will drive right up to the sign and then turn away. Without the signs, power carts distribute themselves over a much wider area of the course causing less wear and tear.

d) Non golf activity on the Golf Course

Jim Smolik informed the Committee about an incident that occurred last weekend. A young girl with a scooter was observed on the golf course near hole 3 and 4. It was alleged that she actually picked up and took a ball in play. When the golfers approached the area where they expected the ball to be they found her hiding in the reeds. When she was asked about the ball, she said various different things including:

- I didn't take it;
- It's in the bunker;
- I put it back in the reeds where I found it.

The ball was not found. She was told that it is dangerous to play on the golf course and she should not be there.

The next day, this same young girl was observed together with her mother walking on the golf course. Both Jim Smolik and Al Koch spoke to the mother advising her of the danger of walking on the golf course, that it is not permitted, and informed her that she could be fined for non-compliance.

The issue of non-golf activity on the Golf Course is a recurring concern.

The idea of having someone marshal the course during tournaments and other busy times in exchange for a reduced green fee was suggested as one way of reducing non-golf activity on the Golf Course.

e) Golf Committee membership

Rob Goodman reviewed the membership of the Committee. The members of the Golf Committee and their terms of office are as follows:

Name	Term	Term Began	Term Expires
Ron Bogen	2nd	Apr 2009	Nov 2015
Robert Goodman	1st	Jul 2012	Nov 2015
Jim Smolick	1st	Jul 2012	Nov 2015
John Schaefer	1st	Apr 2013	Nov 2015
Bill Begue	2nd	Jan 2014	Nov 2016
Al Hawks	2nd	Jan 2014	Nov 2016
Herb Beitel	1st	Apr 2015	Nov 2017
Don Gardner	1st	Apr 2015	Nov 2017
Joan Tape	1st	Apr 2015	Nov 2017

Ron Bogen will not be eligible for membership on the Golf Committee next year since he will have served 2 consecutive terms.

Rob Goodman's term of office will expire at the end of this year, and he stated he is willing to serve a second term.

Jim Smolick and John Schaefer's terms of office will expire at the end of this year, and they have indicated that they do not wish to serve a second term.

That will leave us with 6 returning Committee members. The Village rules require us to have a minimum of 7 Committee members, and up to as many as 10. The Committee was asked to try to recruit some new members.

Rob Goodman also stated that he is not eligible to serve as chairperson next year since he will have served as chairperson for 2 years, so that someone will need to volunteer to be chairperson next year. Rob also stated that he has now acted as recording secretary for 3 years, and someone will need to volunteer to be recording secretary next year.

10. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled to be held on Friday October 9, 2015 at 2:00 pm in the pro shop.

11. Meeting Adjourned: 2:50 pm

Minutes Approved: _____ Date: _____

Rob Goodman, Chairperson