

**STLWDGA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
FOREST HILLS COUNTRY CLUB
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by Marian Sinnett at 9:35 a.m. at Forest Hills Country Club.

In attendance: Marian Sinnett, Kathy Gugger, Pattie Canter, Gerry Wisniewski, Vickie Ressler, Liz Moore, Ronnie Burg, Patty Heinrich, Laurel Palmer, CJ Evans and Carol Ann Jones

Minutes (Attached hereto)

- The minutes of the Executive Board Meeting held at Forest Hills Country Club on Friday, March 27, 2015 were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kathy Gugger and seconded by Laurel Palmer. The minutes were approved.

Old Business

- Regarding the hats and visors ordered last year, Marian said we still have 26 baseball hats, 1 jumbo visor, 4 regular visors. They are \$13 each. CJ noted that the budget reflects the inventory at a little over \$478 short in this area. Marian proposed that we use them as gifts for events like the Junior Tournament, and make them a prize expense as we use them. Kathy Gugger said she will also email the Club CDs in the early spring to see if there is any demand left to buy them from members.
- Marian said that the board sent John Spencer a \$100 gift certificate as a thank you for doing such a wonderful job this season as our head STLWDGA Rules Official. The Board also signed a thank you note that will be sent with it.

Reports

President – Marian Sinnett

- Marian thanked the Board for a great year.
- She reminded Board members to wear District white shirts and black bottoms at all District events except Mixed Event, Invitational and Team. Team Chair/Assistant wear at playoffs unless their team in playoff. Black jackets are required at Opening and Closing meetings, TOL and SES events.
- Job Descriptions were sent earlier in the month, and Marian asked that everyone please make sure all are updated and turned into her.
- The 2016 Draft schedule was distributed and reviewed. Marian said there are two clubs that we are waiting to hear from their Board with approval.
- Marian reminded everyone to submit any stationery requests – letterhead or notecards
- Please let Marian know by mid-January if you would like another white shirt embroidered. The cost is \$13.00 per item, and she will communicate the drop-off point via email. Please be sure to identify your shirt.

- She reminded board members that reports for Executive Board Meeting, Opening and Closing Meetings are to be sent to Marian, Kathy, and Carol Ann prior to meeting.
- Marian said she is looking forward to a great season in 2016.

Parliamentarian – Pattie Canter

- As a member of the Nominating Committee along with Marian Sinnett and Sue Springmeyer, Pattie asked board members to be thinking about potential strong candidates at their clubs for those board positions that will be turning over at the end of 2016, especially Assistant Team Chair and Assistant Tournament Chair. She said the Nominating Committee will begin meeting after the first of the year and begin the process.
- Marian also noted that we will have a sign-up sheet at Opening Day and other key tournaments to give those District members interested in future board roles.

Vice President – Kathy Gugger

- Kathy reviewed the hats/visors left remaining and cost. She will send an email about them in the spring to the CDs to see if any District members still want to purchase them for \$13.00 each.
- Kathy has begun the process of updating the yearbook. The letters to the member clubs requesting dues payment have been sent to the billing department contacts. She has updated the contact list to include the last names of the people we are communicating with in each billing department in an attempt to appear more professional. They also receive the roster of their members of STLWDGA. This will be updated and returned by January 31. In theory all the dues should be paid and rosters updated by the end of January. Some clubs are notoriously slow in getting back with us.
- Letters have been sent to the CDs requesting club information updates and roster updates. Once all the updates have been returned, the yearbook editing will begin. We have a new contact person at the printer, and Kathy will be introducing herself in a few weeks. She feels much more confident in this job now with one year under her belt.
- Kathy said she is moving forward with the plan to change how our members' names are listed in the roster, no longer by marital status and their husband's first name. Members that wish to keep the status quo will need to contact her; otherwise the change will be made.
- Kathy said she had no report at this time about the Junior Tournament to be held at Sunset Hills Country Club at the end of July.

Tournament Chair – Gerry Wisniewski

- Gerry said that attendance was very good in 2015 with similar numbers to what we saw in 2014. She provided the following breakdown:
 - Opening Scramble 2014/108 2015/112
 - TOL 2014/104 2015/104
 - Three Day 2014/54 2015/102
 - BB 2014/100 2015/77* & 91

- Senior 2014/71 2015/88
 - SES 2014/100 2015/96
 - Closing 2014/108 2015/102
- The lowest turnout was the rain out Best Ball at Whitmoor. She said this was perhaps because the Tournament Committee was making the pairings. Very few of the lowest handicap players signed up. In spite of this, Gerry would still like to try this again in 2016. The largest jump was for the Three Day probably due to the courses being played, she said.
- Gerry said there were 4 members who played in all 9 non-Team events and got 11 merit points:
 - Laurel Palmer – Algonquin
 - Nancy Howald – Legends
 - Susan Suggs – Meadowbrook
 - Pattie Canter – Norwood
- Gerry also said she did an unscientific survey of the number of members at each club and how many participated in at least 1 or more events this year as follows:

Algonquin	25/15	60%	Bogey Hills	24/17	71%
Bellerive	21/11	52%	Forest Hills	21/15	71%
Greenbriar	19/10	53%	Glen Echo	13/7	54%
Lake Forest	9/6	67%	Legends	10/8	80%
Meadowbk	24/19	79%	Norwood	27/18	67%
Old Warson	22/9	41%	Persimmon	18/10	56%
Sunset	30/14	47%	Sunset Hills	15/8	53%
St. Albans	24/21	88%	St. Clair	15/8	53%
St. Louis	22/6	27%	Westborough	17/9	53%
Whitmoor	31/15	48%	Westwood	18/3	17%
- Marian thanked Gerry for this important information, and noted that this will help the Nominating Committee when it comes time to see which clubs have the most active participants and perhaps good potential board members.
- Over the off-season, Gerry will be reviewing all the course rating and slope information in GHIN and investigate discrepancies that currently exist. She will update the Member Clubs Course Information for the yearbook and get it to Kathy Gugger. Gerry said she has reached out to Curt Rohe to see what would need to be done to have the hybrid tees from some of the clubs added to GHIN.
- Another review of the scorecards will be done to be sure they include the handicap of each of the holes, correct yardage and par information, as well as having the rating and slope printed on the cards for every tournament. Gerry said she will make any updates in TPP that are necessary. The Invitational and Junior scorecards will be looked at and updated as well for this year.

Assistant Tournament Chair – Vickie Ressler

- Vickie reviewed what she did this year at each event, including:
 - She sent a letter or email to secure a Luncheon Coordinator(s)
 - She sent a letter or email to the Club Manager

- She followed up with the Luncheon Coordinator and the Club Manager before each event
- She sent a thank-you letter or email to the Club Manager
- She copied the Tournament Chair with each letter or email
- Collected trophies where needed and took trophy plaques to All Star Trophy for engraving and the Charlotte Vaughn Trophy (Senior Overall Low Net) to Ray Canda Inc. for engraving. Vickie noted that we pay quite a bit for this, so she may shop around for a more competitive bid.
- She put “Thank You” sign with cards on the tables at the each event and gratuity for the Locker Attendants where available.
- She assisted the Tournament Chair with whatever she needed help with.
- She purchased snacks for the 3-Day Tournament
- She supplied the scoreboard signs for the 3-Day Tournament
- She submitted expenses to the Treasurer
- Vickie noted that some of her upcoming duties for the 2016 season include updating the ATC notebook and begin organizing for next season.

Team Chair – Liz Moore

- Liz thanked Ronnie, Assistant Team Chair, for her outstanding work in the 2015 season.
- She said it was a great season except for the three rainouts this year at Old Warson, Legends and St. Louis Country Club. Fortunately we were able to reschedule at the same club. After the first rain out, a small group met to determine that 12 holes would need to be played in order for the match to be complete. The remaining 6 holes (points) would be divided 3 and 3 between the two teams.
- Liz said it was also decided at that meeting that Team Play scores should be recorded as regular scores and not tournament scores, and both of these decisions will be added to the Team Captains packet for 2016.
- Liz said that she and Ronnie plan to meet to determine the Team Play Sections and Divisions as well as the Schedule of Opponents as soon as they have the 2016 schedule.
- She said they will also meet to make some changes to their job descriptions that are not specific enough and submit them to Marian.
- Liz said Pace of Play continues to be a concern. Spotters seem to help, and we will once again ask captains to provide spotters if possible.

Assistant Team Chair – Ronnie Burg

- Ronnie said her reintroduction to Team play was very interesting. It was much more involved with both Gross and Net competitions than when she was last involved, District only had net competitions.
- She said it is a pleasure to work with Liz Moore in all aspects of Team management. She said Liz is very thorough and kept her current with everything she was performing.

- She also gave kudos to Cindy Herrin for leaving them with great write-ups of job responsibilities and TPP directions. Some of the TPP functionality changed this year, but she and Liz were able to figure our way through the menus.
- The biggest challenge this year was Mother Nature. Ronnie said arranging the semis and finals would have been a lot easier if we were not at the end of the season.
- The pace of play was at least 5 hours and sometimes as much as 5 ½ hours. Ronnie said she really doesn't know how we could move players along without having extra people on the course to watch for certain problems and be willing to give out warnings and maybe even eventually penalties.
- Ronnie said she was asked if a team became ineligible (assuming they have great difficulty fielding a full team) could they not play one year, but be able to get new members and play Team the next year. This was discussed by the board and will be decided on a case by case basis.

Treasurer – CJ Evans

- CJ thanked everyone for submitting detailed reimbursement requests that were helpful in her budgeting process.
- The cancelled 3-day was an unforeseen cost because of weather, but we ended the year \$1664.01 ahead.
- CJ distributed an updated 2016 Proposed Operating Budget, a 2015-2016 Budget Comparison Sheet and 2015 Budget vs. Expenses.
- Next year, CJ said she thinks that all office supplies, even if for Team or Tournaments, should be placed under the "Board" category. She said in general next year she thinks we can combine some expenses better.
- CJ will create a spreadsheet just for non-Team events for Gerry and Vickie, per their request.
- Vickie said she will look into a free booklet that gives important information about how to turn in your scores and handicaps from the USGA. She told CJ we would have to pay for shipping and handling, and she will follow up with her.
- There was a discussion about the carry-over from last year and how it should be budgeted in 2016.
- Pattie Canter also requested that CJ provide at the Spring Meeting a document that shows the complete running balance of our accounts that would show the total 100-year anniversary fund and the Medart Fund. CJ will work on this document with Marian.
- CJ also mentioned that Enterprise Bank does charge \$3.00 for a printed monthly statement. This bank is also not the most convenient for her, and said she would like to look into using possibly US Bank, as long as there are no fees involved. Marian said she is welcome to look into it and please report back her findings.

Rules Chair – Laurel Palmer

- Laurel said the 2016 USGA Rules Book is now available. It is a free publication, but it costs \$30 per 100 books for the shipping cost. She said Marian would like 500 books to be ordered for current members and future members, and Marian

felt that the \$150 was justifiable. Laurel will order them when we decide where we want them shipped.

- Laurel said she had read Rule 14-3/16 in the new Rule Book. It states that cell phones are now allowed on the golf courses. The rule states proper uses of phones as well as breaches of the rule and the penalty for a breach which is disqualification. Laurel said that she and Marian think something should be added to the STLWDGA "Conditions of Play."
- Marian said that we need to speak with John Spencer about this as different clubs have varying local rules, but the proposed additional verbiage for STLWDGA "Conditions of Play" would be: "Phones are permitted for necessary calls and as a measuring device for distance only. Phones should be on vibrating mode."

Corresponding Secretary – Patty Heinrich

- Patty reported that we added 23 new members last year and 2 new members this year.
- There were very few get-well or sympathy cards sent on a good note. Pattie Canter requested that Patty copy in the entire board on emails to Marian about those sick or who have passed so we are all informed and can send notes as appropriate. Patty said she would do this from now on,
- It was decided that Patty would continue to hand stamp the mailings. She said she does not mind doing it, and Pattie Canter said she is also available to assist as needed.
- Marian requested that Board members be given 2 copies of the yearbook.

Recording Secretary – Carol Ann Jones no report

New Business

- Marian asked that the Webmaster role be added as a Standing Committee for next year and moving forward.
- Marian addressed the issue of slow Pace of Play, which is seems to be a problem in both Team and Tournaments. She opened the discussion to how this can be better handled, and there was a board discussion with suggestions including adding clocks at holes and actually giving formal warnings and penalties. After much discussion, it was decided that this will continue to be a primary topic at the Opening Meetings and throughout the season. Marian also said we will work with the Pro and Assistant Pros at each club to enlist their services on the course to issue warnings. Liz said they will continue to also encourage Clubs to provide as many spotters as possible, and those spotters also need to assist in making players aware if they are lagging behind.
- Marian next brought up the topic of Team play days and posting of individual scores. Liz and Ronnie need to continue to work with the Team Captains so they can encourage their players to post a score after the tournament using the USGA guidelines, even in two-woman Match Play.

- Marian addressed a new issue that came up this year. The 3-day at Persimmon Woods was rained out, but the pro had brought in extra carts for the tournament. Since it was rained out and there were no participants to charge for their individual cart fee, Persimmon was left with a \$220 charge. Marian and the pro spoke about it as the pro wanted to charge this amount to STLWDGA. Marian explained that there had always been an understanding, if unwritten, that the clubs take on these kinds of expenses. Persimmon Woods Golf Club and STLWDGA will split the cost this time, but in future, the Board agreed that before all Team and Tournament events, a discussion needs to be had about carts, if extra carts are being brought in, and in case of rain out, how that cost would be handled to avoid this situation in the future.
- Marian read a letter notifying STLWDGA that Roy Wilson, President of STLDGA has resigned.
- Marian also shared a note about Bob Shogren's health and asked Patty Heinrich to continue to send him monthly get-well cards from STLWDGA.
- Marian turned the floor over to Kathy Gugger, who presented the proposed 2016 SES Charities (attachment). After a discussion, the volunteer organization Room at the Inn was chosen by a ballot vote.

There being no further business, Gerry Wisniewski moved to adjourn the meeting, and Vickie Ressler seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Ann Jones, Recording Secretary
November 12, 2015

Attachments:

Approved Minutes of the March 27, 2015 Executive Board Meeting
2016 Proposed SES Charities