

Ocean Pines Golf Advisory Committee

April Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: April 20, 2023

Time: 2:00pm

Location: OP Golf Clubhouse, large meeting room

Members Present: Bob Beckelman, Frank Brown, Justin Hartshorne, Fritz Lahner, Bob Long, Don McMullen, Bob Moulden, Ann Shockley

Agenda:

- I. Call to Order, Frank Brown- the meeting was called to order at 2:00pm
- II. Public Comments-there were no public comments
- III. Approved Minutes from March meeting -the minutes were provided to members before the meeting – The March minutes were approved
- IV. Course Conditions Update, Justin Hartshorn, Course Superintendent – Justin reported that they are doing additional sanding on greens, a heavier sanding elsewhere and then in the future, light dustings where needed. The fairways are the best he has ever seen. Work is being done on the tees. All positions for golf maintenance are filled at this time. They are working on the electrical system which includes sprinkler heads being operated by remote instead of by hand. Justin is beginning to look at updating/replacing parts of the irrigation system. A new irrigation system would start to be incorporated, in stages, in the Fall 2024. Justin predicts heavy traffic this year and states that a wet season is harder to deal with than a dryer season.
- V. Golf Management Report, Bob Beckelman-Bob reports that the course has been busy with the Men's and Ladies seasons starting. All golfers with a handicap have been updated in the handicap system (GHIN). Player's 2022 credits are good 'til the end of April, at which time any new credits will be added to player's account for 2023. A Golf Member's night is being held at the end of the month on the evening of April 28. The Pro Shop is very busy with lessons and club fittings. Bob knew that there was a need for these services, but the demand has far exceeded his expectations. Bob will give lessons, mostly to members, but the assistant, Pro Brian Davis and Matt Ruggiere, instructor, are filling the additional need for instruction. Outside play has been very good and the Pro Shop is working with that to provide play for all golfers. At this point, Op Golf is within \$14,000 all of the 2022 numbers with booked play so far this season! Bob expects that 2023 play will far exceed 2022 play. Bob said that next year, 2024, the course won't do a shamble (he hopes the OPMGA will pick up that event) and will run with the Men's and Ladies' events. He would like all golfers to compete in some type of event.
- VI. Golf Group Reports
 - a. Members Council, Bill Bavis – no report provided
 - b. OPMGA, John Ferinde – The OPMGA is on schedule and has picked up eight new members to bolster their membership to approximately 90 members.
 - c. OPLGA, Ann Shockley – The OPLGA has gained 12 new members and now has 36 members. They have also begun using the Golf Genius program to sign up for the weekly play.

Old Business

I. OP Day Workgroup Committee Meeting, Ann Shockley

Ann attended the April meeting of the OP Day Workgroup held at the OP Library. Planning is ongoing to include not only the OP amenities, but the 60 some clubs associated with Ocean Pines in next year's event. Committee members agreed to help contact these different groups to ask if they would like to participate in the event. Also, OP board member/liaison Doug Parks guided the group to first consider what essential cost would be associated with this event. Costs such as set-up, clean-up, policing, tables, etc. that would probably be handled by the OP organization. After that, other costs such as entertainment, food, etc. can be considered. The next meeting is May 22, 3pm at the OP Library.

II. Approved course beautification project update, Frank Brown - #1 tee- complete. Grasses and roses have been planted in the garden area opposite of the men's tee box. #7 green – complete – rocks and plantings were added behind the green to the right along the tree line.

New Business

I. Suggestions for improvements in course playability

a. Discussion with Pro and Greenskeeper

Frank Brown asked about #9 and #15 fairways being made a little wider. Also, pine straw is being added around the "twin sisters" trees on #14.

The roughs were discussed. Justin said he frequently looks at what the roughs need and said they may need to be changed when the irrigation system is updated.

Adjourn – Don McMullen made a motion the adjourn the meeting, Bob Long seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 pm