

Ocean Pines Golf Advisory Committee

February Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: February 15, 2024

Time: 2:00pm

Location: OP Golf Clubhouse, Large Meeting Room

Members Present: Tammy Banachowski, Frank Brown, Bob Beckelman, Don McMullen, Bob Moulden, Susan Morris, Fritz Lahner, Ann Shockley and Steve Jacobs- OP Board liaison.

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-
 - a. The December 2023 minutes were emailed to the members. Motion to approve- Don McMullen, seconded by Fritz Lahner, the minutes were unanimously approved.
- IV. Course Conditions Update, Justin Hartshorne, Course Superintendent, was not present but the following comments were made by those present. Clean-up of tree/branches continues by use of a grinder, chipper. Tee restorations are being addressed and the addition of new tee markers has been added. The new markers will be renamed as forward, charcoal color, (tee shot -105yds): member-orange color (tee shot-220yds): middle, green color (220yds+): championship, blue (tee shot 260yds+): pro, black color (tee shot 300yds+). The old pine cone markers were repainted to reflect this idea. As some of the tee markers are smaller (newly acquired) than the old, they will be used for the black (pro) markers. More sand will be added to the sand traps for Spring. The course is in good shape. Ideas are being considered to chase the geese off the course.
- V. Golf Management Report, Bob Beckelman, OP Golf Pro, reported that the new score cards cannot be ordered until after May 1 when the Ocean Pines new budget starts, so the old cards will continue to be used. The golf course will be represented in the upcoming OP Expo Day on April 20th. The OP Ladies Golf Association (OPLGA) and the OP Mens Golf Association (OPMGA) will be included with the golf course's table. Member and general information for the OP Golf Course, as well as, OPLGA and OPMGA membership information will be available. Golf related merchandise will also be offered for sale. Following the Expo, Bob plans to hold a Resident's Day on April 21 with events at the OP Golf course to further the public's knowledge of all that the golf course has to offer. This may include clinics, free range balls and reduced greens fees.

For OP Golf membership, Bob's goal is to increase the number to 200 members. We presently have around 170 members of which 80-90% play regularly. The golf course has updated to a new POS (point of sale) system and staff has been trained in its use. Bob also remarked handicap changes for the course is that #2 is harder than #3 and #15 is harder than #14. The changes will be reflected on March 15, the date when Maryland golfers with handicaps, start posting scores for 2024.
- VI. Golf Group Reports
 - a. Members Council, Bill Bavis – was not present.

- b. OPMGA, John Ferinde – was not present but other members of OPMGA reported that their first meeting of the 2024 season is March 12 and April 11 is Opening Day and the 1st day of play. Also, the Ravens Roost tournament is on May 31st and the Bohemian Hops tournament will be on August 23.
- c. OPLGA, Ann Shockley – Tammy Banachowski, OPLGA's new chair was also present. Denise Stevens, Vice-chair has set up a link for the OPLGA on the OP Golf website. The link, oceanpinesgolf.org/membership/OPLGA has all the new information for the 2024 season. It includes a membership application, letter from the Chair, play schedule and other pertinent information. This link makes it easy for people to access information, especially if they are interested in joining. The women's Opening Day and 1st day of play is April 9th. The OPLGA along with the OPMGA will again host the Pink Lady tournament October 9th and another tournament is being organized to benefit the Diakonia Charity. 13 new members have joined so far this season.

Old Business-

- I. OP Expo Day Workgroup: The group met on February 28th. Ann was out of town and not able to attend. The workgroup is surging ahead with several sponsors lined up, amenities signing up to be included, as well as, many organizations and clubs. The group had hoped for a dunk tank with members of the OP Boad as participants. This has been taken out because of liability issues. Food trucks will be present as well. The rain date is April 21.
- II. Possible activities the GAC could sponsor: the Golf Course Opening Day – April 6th is being planned by OPMGA's Dave McGergor and OPLGA's Denise Stevens. The play will be a Scramble with lunch to follow. The Pro Shop has the details.
Resident's Day – will be held April 21 following the OP Day Expo. Plans are still being finalized.

New Business

- I. Member Concerns – The comment was made that the Golf Council's sponsored Pizza Party in February was a great success.

Adjourn - Don McMullen made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Fritz Lahner seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:36.