



Free State Seniors Golf Association

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors

18 March 2021

The Free State Seniors Golf Association Board of Directors met on March 18, 2021, at Rolling Road Country Club. President Jim Horn called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. with board members Jim Foster, Gary Kramer, Gary Manion, John Blouse, Bruce Cowan, Mike Kurylo, Ed Baur, and Mike Myirski present, with Bob Linkous participating by telephone. A motion made by Gary Kramer to approve the minutes, as amended, from the November 5, 2020 meeting, was seconded by Mike Kurylo and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Gary Manion

Prior to the meeting Gary Manion provided spread sheets of the Treasurer's Report (Attachment 1).

Gary reported that the Association has 178 paid members to date. Jim Horn reported that he received payment for 2 additional members to be added to Gary's total. The Association budgeted for 180 members for 2021. For the COVID year 2020, the Association had 162 members.

Through Mar 14, the bottom line is a positive \$7200, which is \$2933 more favorable than this time last year. Cash and investments total \$18,768. Approximately \$11,000 has been paid as deposits for 2021 tournaments. The net equity is \$29,752.

A motion made by Bruce Cowan to approve the Treasurer's report and seconded by John Blouse was approved unanimously by the Board

Executive Secretary's Report – Jim Horn

Sadly, this was the first formal Board meeting since the passing of our Executive Secretary Bill Stricker. Following the lead of Jim Horn, the Board offered a gracious toast to the extraordinary service Bill provided to our Association. The Board enacted several policies to honor the legacy of Bill (below).

The Board discussed at length the position of Treasurer. A motion made by Mike Kurylo to establish the Treasurer position as an ex officio member of the Board for a one year term, was seconded by Bruce Cowan, and approved unanimously. Gary Manion was previously voted Treasurer for 2021. A motion made by Jim Horn to name Ed Baur as Web Master (also an ex officio position) for 2021, was seconded by Bruce Cowan, and approved unanimously.

Jim graciously agreed to serve as Executive Secretary for 2021 (having already conducted much of that work in establishing the 2021 tournament schedule). The Board approved requesting the position of Assistant Executive Secretary to be canvassed from the Free state Membership. If no suitable candidate is identified by June 1, the Board will appoint a Board member to that position.

Gary Kramer recommended we develop a more formal file sharing system for all the data/information managed by the Executive Secretary. Ed Baur recommended we share files on the cloud, not the web.

Gary Manion led a discussion on the payments to the Executive Secretary, which have included rent, phone fees, mileage, and supplies. Gary made the first quarter 2021 payment (through January), but not no additional payments. Further details of this discussion were considered to be in Executive Session.

Jim Horn and Bruce Cowan discussed the Free State materials they were able to retrieve from Bill Stricker's residence (with the assistance of Bill's son). These items include multiple binders of Board minutes, financial statements, tournament results, paper, golfnet scorecards, and the Free State computer. Of most value (besides the computer), are the membership listings and photos. Much of the remaining items are not needed and have been disposed. Jim has already created a template to be used for tournament scoring for this year.

The Board discussed many options to honor Bill Stricker. The Board agreed to dedicate the entire 50th year to Bill, with special recognition to be provided to the gross and net at the 50th anniversary tournament in June at Piney Branch (Bill's home course). The Board also agreed to create a plaque and rename our Player of the Year (POY) as the Bill Stricker Free State POY. Additional options are also under consideration.

Jim announced that Board member Charlie Mergler recently sold his house and will be moving out of state. This leaves one vacancy on the Board.

Jim provided a list of new Free State members, which includes those who paid the 2021 membership late in 2020.

The first tournament of 2021 will be held April 26 at South River Golf Club. Due to COVID restrictions, South River cannot allow a shotgun format. Tee times starting at 10:00 be used. All other tournaments are expected to have a shotgun start. The tees to be used at South River are ~ 5200, 5500, and 6000 yards, depending on flight.

To minimize the possibility of ties for Player of the Year, the Board agreed that at least one tournament needs to be an individual event. The Board determined that the first and last tournaments will be a 4-man event, the 50th anniversary event will be individual, and the remaining tournaments 2-man events. For speed of play, the individual tournament will impose a maximum hole score of net double bogey.

Jim announced that he has purchased 400 bag tags with the Free State logo, to be issued at the 50th anniversary event and for new members thereafter. The Board approved the purchase of 18 decorative pin flags for the 50th anniversary tournament, to be distribute to flight winners, closest-to-pin winners, and two reserved for Bill Stricker's sons.

Jim also discussed the potential problems going forward with the Potomac Challenge, which Bill was addressing at the time of his untimely death. This discussion was tabled for further discussion. Jim reported that due to a logistical issue, Free State has a dozen white FS shirts unused from the 2020 Potomac Challenge. The Board agreed that we will make the shirts available for sale to the FS membership.

Golf Committee – Jim Foster/Gary Kramer

Gary requested of Jim that tournament results be provided in an Excel spreadsheet for calculating the POY.

Wally Engle Committee – Jim Horn

John Blouse noted that we have had an issue filling a full bracket for this tournament. He also noted that both Winters Run GC and Greystone GC have two FS members each. He made a motion that such teams can combine to form one team for the Wally Engle tournament. The motion was seconded by Gary Manion and approved by the Board. The Board also discussed the possibility of a single club, with multiple FS members, fielding two or more teams for this tournament. The Board declined that option for now.

Planning Committee – Mike Kurylo

Mike discussed the possibility of public golf courses Penn National and Mountain Branch as future FS venues. Additionally, Mike Myirski indicated that Bill Stricker was also working to add Greystone GC to the list. All agreed that the pricing of tournaments is expected to rise, in part due to increased popularity of golf due to COVID.

Mike also provided a listing of golf courses previously played by both Free State and MISGA. Mike recommended we focus on tournament sites that do not conflict with MISGA to avoid the unnecessary competition.

Nominating Committee – Mike Myirski

As noted, we have one vacancy with the departure of Charlie Mergler. Mike indicated he will followup with Charlie for a potential replacement (especially a MdGCC FS member). In lieu of that, the Board will open the position to the Free State membership. Mike Kurylo provided data on Board membership term expirations.

Membership and Publicity Committee – Bruce Cowan

Bruce reported that an article describing the Free State Association, with emphasis on the 50th anniversary, has been posted to the Maryland State Golf Association website.

Jim Horn reported he has been in touch with the Carroll Times, a subsidiary of the Baltimore Sun, for a potential article on Free State.

Distinguished Seniors Committee – Gary Kramer

Gary reported he will be contacting our most recent Distinguished Senior (Jim Wilcox) for an invitation to the Past Presidents tournament and the 50th anniversary tournament.

Audit Committee – Tony Errera

No report

Web Master -Ed Baur

NSTR

New Business

NSTR

Old Business

NSTR

A motion made by Gary Kramer to adjourn the meeting, was seconded by Mike Kurylo, and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm.

The next Board meeting will be held April 22, 2021.