

Musing the Minutes: March 22, 2012

By Brian Brown, Secretary MGCSA

The MGCSA Board of Directors met on March 22 at Heritage Links Golf Club.

President Scottie Hines, CGCS called the meeting to order. Treasurer Paul Eckholm, CGCS reported that the dues have been slow coming in especially from out state. Advertising revenue is low. Still working on account consolidation and over the next 8 months Eckholm & Mackenzie will finalize the work. The new consolidated accounts will go into effect on January 1. Some invoices are still being sent to TCI.

President's Report: Hines has been appointed to the GCSAA Government Affairs Committee. Hines will be going to Washington D.C. to represent GCSAA and MGCSA at meetings on Capitol Hill.

Business Office: Jack MacKenzie, CGCS reported that many calls have been coming in from members. MacKenzie is pursuing a member travel package so a group of superintendents can attend the 2013 Masters. MacKenzie is creating a Superintendent hiring package that will be sent to Clubs that will be hiring a new superintendent. Info included will be posting templates and industry salaries.

Arrangements/awards: Mackenzie reported that the MGA will be hosting the 6th annual Turfgrass Forum. Reinders is sponsoring the event. MacKenzie will apply for CEU's from GCSAA. The Affiliate event is scheduled to be at Island View Golf Club. An out-state site board meeting is scheduled, and will include a MGCSA Meet and Greet 9-hole event. GCSAA requires chapters to complete a strategic plan every 2-years. Mackenzie will look at scheduling these meetings out state in the winter months. This multi-date event would include a MGCSA winter outreach event such as snowmobiling or downhill skiing. The courses that donate tee times for the research week have been contacted and the MGA is willing to promote the available tee times by emailing their 35,000 members .

Bylaws/Historical: Eckholm put together some possible proposed By-law changes. These changes clean up wording and what actually happens. These changes will need to be voted on by the memberships. GCSAA sent their new Privacy Policy and the MGCSA will need to have a privacy policy online.

Communications: Dave Kazmierczak, CGCS reported that the 2nd digital Hole Notes went out as a 38 page edition. Porter reported that a 3-way folder has been created that can be accessed by MacKenzie, LCMB, and himself. The creation of the new data base and website is on the contract time table. Going forward we will have the analysis about website and Hole Note membership activity.

Conference/Education: Many speakers for the Green Expo have committed. The full day speaker for the March Mega Seminar has been contacted.

Fundraising/Industry Relations: The National Hospitality at the GIS made about \$1,000. Some of the money is yet to come in. There was good attendance with 127. The survey of the Affiliates shows that they want to keep the Hospitality at the GIS.

MN Government Affairs: Eckholm reported that only a couple of bills have impact on our industry. A bill looks to be going through that would put all pesticide

HOLE NOTES

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MTGF: Stewart reported that attendance to the Northern Green Expo was flat but revenues to the MTGF were up. The second floor rotunda at the Convention Center is being reserved for the MGCSA so that it can host an association gathering on Thursday of the NGE from 4:30-6:30. The use for the space will be free and the bartender service will be covered by the NGE. There will not be a TROE Center field day this year. Dr. Horgan would like to have associations conduct a board meeting at the U of M followed by an Open House for their association at the TROE Center. The MTGF budget for research support is \$85,000. The breakdown is: \$2,000 for white mold on bedding plants, \$15,000 for Dutch Elm Disease resistance, \$3,000 for online diagnostic tool, \$50,000 for the TROE Center, and

\$15,000 for MTGF Fellowship endowment.

Research: Mailings went out to the golf courses that donated tee times for the research week. The gun raffle raised money last year for research and another may occur this year with possible a different type of gun given away.

U of M report: Dr. Horgan is working on a possible TROE Center virtual Field Day with 3-5 minute video clips of research occurring at the TROE Center. The MGA will be giving the TROE Center \$10,000 this year and possibly annually. The MGCSA is looking at hosting a TROE Center blog on it's website.

Submitted by Brian Brown, MGCSA Secretary.