

## **Minutes, Board of Directors, Palo Alto Golf Club, January 6, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by President Matkowski at 6:30 p.m. All directors and officers were present, except for Secretary Sehl, Treasurer Cali and Director/Membership Bazinett. Director Segol agreed to take the minutes pending the Secretary's arrival.

Minutes were approved with one correction, President Matkowski noting that Director Breedlove's name had been left off the list of 2011 Board members included in the December minutes for the 2011 Board. With correction approval was moved by Director Segol, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Craig Allen

**Club Professional's Report**—Club Professional Rich Bin asked whether a list of 2011 Club events at Palo Alto Golf Course which he had in his files was still correct. Co-Tournament Chairman Craig Allen confirmed that it was. Mr. Bin noted that the course is in good shape, considered the recent heavy rains, especially the greens. Directors who had recently played concurred with that assessment, which Mr. Bin attributed to the work of Valley Crest, the new contract course maintenance firm. He noted that Brian Daum, Valley Crest's superintendent for PAGC, is very easy to work with. He further reported that he and Brian have been working to revise the mowing pattern for tee boxes on the golf course. Instead of a continuous "launch pad" tee box that has been used in the past, they are developing square tee boxes, separated by rough, and aimed squarely to the fairway. This keeps the tees from being set in what have been low spots on the tees. It also allows the various tee boxes to be somewhat offset, which adds to the playing factors for various holes. This has initially been done on the 10<sup>th</sup> hole, and will be extended to other tees as time permits. Mr. Bin also reported that Valley Crest is rolling the greens fairly frequently to keep them smooth, and he has suggested that one approach to green care might be to do a small hole aerification, such as what Valley Crest did shortly after taking over the course in October, four or five times a year. Rich feels that will keep the greens healthy, without the major disruption of the large-hole aerifications done in the past.

**President's Report**—President Matkowski referred to the pending flood control improvements to San Francisquito Creek along the north and east sides of the course, which are expected to require redesigning several holes, and a less-than-18-hole-course for some period of time, probably in 2012. He asked what the club did during the last construction on the course, in 1998. He was told that the course was basically played as an executive course, and the club played club events as the course existed at that time. Director Allen said one strong possibility is that the course will be reduced to nine holes, which the club could then play in tournaments by going around twice. Director Allen acknowledged that the construction is probably going to significantly reduce course revenues, noting that the will be negotiating some recompense for the losses with the Joint Powers Authority that is building the flood control improvements.

President Matkowski also noted the difficulty in getting 2011 Board of Director candidates, and thanked those who had agreed to serve. He requested that Board members start looking for 2012 candidates throughout the year, by talking to members during club events, or just while hanging out at the course. Director Breedlove asked whether making the term shorter than three years might make service more attractive. Other Board members noted this requires a bylaws change, which can only occur at an annual meeting that draws 10 percent of the membership, which this

year would be about 30 members. At this time, the conundrum of the annual meeting was explained to the new Board members. Bylaw changes, including reducing the number of members that to be present to amend the bylaws, can only be made at an annual meeting with a quorum. The quorum requirement is itself part of the bylaws. Various ideas for getting sufficient attendance at the annual meeting were discussed. One idea was to do one day of a two-day tournament as a shotgun start, and request participants to attend an annual meeting at the completion of play. Mr. Bin said a shotgun start for a club event would be feasible, if so desired. A date of April 16, the first day of the Director's Cup, was tentatively selected.

Treasurer Cali and Director/Membership Bazinett arrived at 6:35, during this discussion. Secretary Sehl arrived at 6:38, and assumed the duty of taking the minutes.

The president's choice for the tournament committee is Bill Dolan.

The president completed his report with a recommendation that all new directors read the club by-laws (Director Allen distributed copies of the by-laws and tournament policies).

**Vice President's Report:** Nothing new to report.

**Secretary's Report:** Nothing new to report.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Cali reported that the bank book is balanced. The information is not in Quickbooks yet, therefore Treasurer Cali did not distribute a report at the meeting. He indicated that the club has between \$3,000 and \$4,000 leftover from 2010. This could make a club contribution to a member-guest tournament feasible.

**Tournament Chairman's Report:** 24 have entered the New Member Tournament so far.

**Assistant Tournament Chairman's Report:** Las Positas double booked our July 9 tournament. Assistant Tournament Chairman Allen recommended switching dates with the June 11 Red White and Blue tournament.

**Membership Chairman's Report:** Chairman Bazinett reported that the club's membership has declined by about 10% each of the last three years and requested that the board keep in mind the impact of that decline on the budget. \$65 of each member's dues goes to the club's general fund.

**Membership Coordinator's Report:** Coordinator Frykland reported a recent upward trend in new member sign ups and indicated that the improved course conditions are probably helping. A discussion of the declining conditions at Shoreline ensued with the consensus being that we may gain or regain some members due to Shoreline's situation.

**Handicap Chairman's Report:** Nothing new to report

**Director Breedlove's Report:** The trophy board is up.

**Director Dolan's Report:** Nothing new to report.

**New Business:** Membership Coordinator Frykland proposed a Facebook group for the club to promote increased social interaction and information sharing with an eye to attracting younger members.

**Old Business:**

Member-Guest status: Most directors indicated that they are in favor of holding the tournament as long as the terms for the tournament are favorable. The consensus was to keep the food and tee prizes modest.

Treasurer Cali will confirm that we're able to contribute a portion of the 2010 budget excess to help pay for part of the tournament cost.

The costliest items for the member=guest tournament are the tee prizes and the hosted food

A sleeve of balls was suggested to be sufficient as a tee prize and examples of other clubs doing this were shared.

Alternatives to the club funding a fancier menu of hosted food in the banquet room were also discussed. They included:

- 1) A simple barbecue held on the patio
- 2) Non-hosted food (may not have access to banquet room)
- 3) Possible contributions from Tom, similar to last year.
- 4) A meal similar to last year's with club money replacing Tom's contribution

President Matkowski will talk to Tom about food options and whether he would be willing to do something similar to 2010.

Posting Craig Allen's Contact List on the Website: Done.

**Agenda Items for Next Month's Meeting:**

Finding a date for the member-guest tournament

Meeting Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:08 PM.