SunBird Golf Club, Inc General Meeting

April 19, 2024

Minutes

President Dave White opened the meeting at 11:00 am in the Ballroom. Board members present: Julie Anderson, Scott Stohr. Board members not present: Jeff Seaman, Kelly Davis, Jean Pritchard, Trent Johnson

Minutes from the March meeting were approved as emailed.

**Membership**: In his absence, Dave reported for Jeff Seaman that membership stands at 229 members as of April 19, 2024. Of these, 57 are Redeemable and 172 are Non-Redeemable. Jeff Seaman continues to contact all new homeowners with information about the Golf Club and an invitation to golf.

**Golf Shop**: Dave White reported that the golf shop continues to do well. Current golf shop employees are Amber, Amy, Dorothy, Ken, Mike, Rick, and Tom. Zach (golf cart maintenance) has submitted his notice as he is leaving on a yearlong mission trip. A new employee to replace Zach has been hired (Anthony) and will start soon. We continue to receive positive online reviews for our Golf Shop Team’s friendliness.

Dave announced that member rates for all golf packages next season will remain the same. There will be increases for non-members. In addition, members will receive one free tournament play, meaning that members’ tournament fees will be reduced by $30 November through April and reduced by $20 for tournaments held May through October. This applies to tournaments sponsored by SunBird Golf Club only (SunBird Open, Founder’s, Greenskeeper’s, Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day). Members will be able to choose which tournament they wish to apply the discount.

New golf balls (Vector) will be available in the golf shop, along with new hats and men’s clothing with the SunBird logo.

As a reminder, members are allowed to use chits to pay for dues and golf packages.

The Memorial Day tournament is May 27th, $45 and will be a shot gun start. Sign-ups are available in the Golf Shop.

**Finance**: Julie Anderson reported a positive income of $304K for the three months ending March 31, 2024. In addition, a double payment was made on our long-term debt, bringing our balance to $63K ($56K principal and $7K interest) which will be due April 1, 2025. As of this time next year, the golf club should be debt free. Golf package sales were up this year over last year, indicating that members like the option of a 12-month, 6-month and 3-month unlimited play package. The same packages will be available again next season. We are accruing income tax payable for the first time in several years, as our loss carry over will be used this year.

**Greens Committee:** In Kelly Davis’s absence, Dave reported that gate valves have been ordered and they are produced in Israel, so there have been delays. A tractor with a backhoe is needed to dig trenches for gate valve replacement, plus regular irrigation repair. Rather than continuing to repair our old tractor and rent a backhoe, the Board has recommended that a new tractor is purchased with a bucket and backhoe capability. Brendan, Kelly and Dave are researching the purchase of this equipment not to exceed $20K. An edger will also be fitted to the tractor. The fairways are in great shape, the turf crew is in place (still down one employee, continuing to advertise). The driving range will be closed in June to fill in valleys and prepare for seeding with Bermuda grass. The aerator is being repaired and will allow the crew to punch the entire course plus the driving range. Brendan has contracted to purchase seed at $1.58 per pound, which is significantly lower than 2 years ago. In answer to questions from members, the bees’ honeycomb and the queen have been removed on hole #2. The remaining bees are expected to abandon the area within a few days. Our water use is within our allocation. The Club should investigate deeding certain common areas to the HOA to reduce future property tax, but only if it does not affect our water rights allocation. The cell phone tower is awaiting contract signatures between Atlas and carriers, per Ed Leonard. We expect installation to begin any time. Nothing further is required from the Golf Club at this point.

**HOA/SBGC Committee**: Scott Stohr reported that the committee met on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 3:00 in the Pima room for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting. The HOA thanked the Golf Club for allowing parking on the driving range during the HOA Far Out Fest. A task force has been established by the HOA to investigate parking on Waterview in front of the driving range for golf cart parking only (no cars). SBGC will submit an overseed fundraising letter by April 18th for review to be included in the June HOA dues letter. Dave announced that the driving range will be closed for the month of June for repair and preparation for seeding. No further meetings are scheduled at this time, but if needed, a meeting could be called.

**Membership:** In Jeff Seaman’s absence, Dave reported that the volunteer social was a success, with over 75 people attending. Dave again thanked all volunteers. Hole #3 was recently cleaned up by the Bandits. A sign and member information has been installed at the chipping area.

**New Business**: The Bandits are donating $2,500 to the Club to be used to upgrade the tee box at hole #8, like the tee box at hole #17. The Kare Bears have donated $1,000 which was used to replace and repair fountains on lakes 7 and 17. Thank you to both organizations for their continued support of the Golf Club.

In answer to questions from members, Jeff Seaman will be asked to reserve the patio in March for a future volunteer appreciation event. The Greenskeeper tournament netted about $3,500, all of which will be used to offset a $11,000 cost to repair the aerator. The cost was higher than the original $6,200 bid due to a computer component needing to be replaced. The remaining balance will be paid from our reserve. Julie Anderson confirmed that minutes will be submitted to Duane Dub to be posted on the Members Only section of the website. No 9-hole packages will be offered next season due to inability to closely monitor usage. When it was offered before, we had several instances of people continuing to play 18 holes vs 9. The Board is always open to revisit any packages that members want, provided we have a way to monitor and prevent abuse.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 25, 2024, at 11:00 in the Ballroom.

Submitted by Julie Anderson, in Jean Pritchard’s absence.