



Carolinas PGA Section Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Country Club of North Carolina
Tuesday, June 19, 2018

- Officers:** Paige Cribb – President, Bob Byrnes – Vice President, Chris Byrd – Secretary and John Marino – Honorary President
- Board Members:** Jeff Avant, Andrew Shuck, Josh Wagaman, Brett Miller, Ben Smith, A.J. Sikula, Jim Lohbauer, Donald Clement, Marshall Stott, Robb Wade & Buddy Lawrence
- Absent:** Tom Mason, Brock White
- Staff Present:** Jeff Abbot, Cory Armstrong & Kurt Battenberg
- Special Invitees:** Rick Murphy (Candidate – PGA Secretary), Marc Isaacson & Collin Jewell

Call to Order

President Cribb called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. She thanked CCNC host professional Jeff Dotson, welcomed our new board members, congratulated Collin Jewell on the birth of their daughter and thanked PGA of America Secretary Candidate Rick Murphy for attending. Secretary Byrd then performed roll call.

Approval of Minutes

Byrd asked for a motion to approve the February 18, 2018 Board of Directors meeting minutes. The motion was offered, seconded, and approved.

President's Report

President Cribb issued her President's Report noting the harsh winter conditions that brought on course maintenance issues at numerous CPGA courses causing a few events to be relocated. All section committees have been formulated and several conference calls and meetings have taken place. She commended the success of the PGA REACH Carolinas Foundation, as well as the recently conducted spring area meetings. She then commended Rick Murphy and asked him to update the board on his secretary campaign.

Rick Murphy – PGA Secretary Campaign Update

Murphy presented an update on his campaign and reviewed a voting projection spreadsheet. Abbot noted Murphy has an outstanding chance to win the election, and asked the board to review the delegate list to reach out to anyone who can offer their support. Murphy presented a report on his current campaign budget and requested an additional \$10,000 from the Section. After Murphy left the room, the report was reviewed and thoroughly discussed. A motion was offered, seconded and unanimously approved to furnish an additional \$10,000.

Vice President's Report

Vice President Byrnes presented a written report with the first quarter finances. Abbot reviewed notable variances and reported that finances were in line with expectations. The Investment Fund was down 0.4% for the year with a current balance of \$2,169,587.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Byrd issued his written report on the status of the Section's Membership. As of June 11, there were 1,803 Members and 262 Associates (2,065 total) in the Section – a total of 32 more than reported in February 2018.

Area Director Reports

Abbot welcomed newly elected area directors to the board: Area IV – A.J. Sikula (Grandfather Golf & CC); Area VI – Jim Lohbauer (River Run CC) and Area VIII – Marshall Stott (River Landing). Area directors were reminded of their approved \$2,000 in funding for education/social functions in 2018. Abbot will contact directors this summer to discuss the best timing for their 2019 spring area meeting. The board was also presented with a list of the newly approved area names: Area I - Highlands, Area II – Palmetto, Area III – Lowcountry, Area IV – Piedmont, Area V – Sandhills, Area VI – Greater Charlotte, Area VII – Grand Strand, Area VIII – Cape Fear, Area IX – Triangle and Area X – Atlantic.

Committee Reports

An updated committee directory was submitted in writing. Attending committee chairs gave updates on their committee activities. Of note, Hall of Fame nominations open on July 1st. Byrnes and Mueller gave an update on the Career Committee's quality assistant shortage initiative. Wagaman noted the education committee will be sending out a member survey by June 30 and is targeting Jack Nicklaus, Dabo Swinney, Bob Ford and Bob Rotella as potential featured speakers

for February's annual meeting. Miller supplied the highlights of his written Public Relations Progress Report. A discussion ensued about launching free lesson/putting contests next year at minor league games to promote golf. Staff will research costs for further discussions at the fall board planning session. Armstrong updated the board on new corporate partners. Avant reviewed the Tournament Activities Report which had four (4) amendments to the tournament rules and regulations. A motion was offered, seconded and unanimously approved each tournament regulation amendment.

PGA REACH – Carolinas

Abbot reported that PGA Junior League is on pace to eclipse 3,000 juniors in 2018 (28% increase in teams from prior year). The number of teams has grown from 101 teams in 2014 to 258 teams in 2018. There will be a post season this year with regional sites at Prestonwood CC, Columbia CC, Hendersonville CC and Lake Hickory CC. The PGA JL Championship will be August 22nd at Mid-Pines. Area Directors were also encouraged to promote upcoming DCP deadlines.

The foundation through a grant from Express-Scripts will be sending a team to represent the Carolinas at the 2018 Secretary's Cup in conjunction with the 100th PGA Championship in St. Louis. The foundation board approved sending the low CPGA team from last year's Secretary's Cup which was HOPE Charleston and their PGA Professional Perry Green.

The foundation plans to honor the passing of Sunny Harris Hutchinson, daughter of Quail Hollow President Johnny Harris, by creating the Sunny Harris Hutchinson PGA Works Fellowship which will fund a diverse fellow in perpetuity. The press release was reviewed by the board and will go out on June 21 featuring a Crowdrise link and a \$300,000 campaign goal. Telvin Walker (Livingstone College 2017 graduate) is our new fellow who started on Monday, May 14.

The PGA REACH Kevin Harvick Charity Pro-Am entry form was reviewed. The section's goal is to field at least nine (9) teams. Currently we only have three (3) applications and two (2) other requests to hold teams. Abbot will call each board member individually to discuss their plans to field a team. The section also needs help securing first class silent auction packages (rounds of golf, autographed merchandise, etc.).

Old Business

Abbot reviewed a written report on the financial success of 2018 Big Week. The board also discussed renaming the event "The Carolinas PGA Super Show" since the event is only 2.5 days and Big Week is often misleading to prospective merchandise vendors and attendees. The board approved the awards dinner to return to Greensboro CC – Irving Park in 2019.

The Board of Directors began discussions at the February 18, 2018 Board Meeting and voted unanimously to eliminate sanction fees and replace the lost revenue with a member dues increase. For this meeting, the Officers presented a five year financial projection and proposed a one-time dues increase effective July 1, 2019. 2019 is a critical year since ADP funding caps out at \$180,000, the PGA Championship broadcast rights contract renewal takes place (which helps fund ADP/Section Funding), and the Wells Fargo Championship contract expires (\$34,000 net income derived from the WF qualifiers in 2017). After a lengthy discussion, the board unanimously approved the staff to continue to work with the officers to draft a motion with supporting information of this proposed one time dues increase which would be voted on by the membership at the February 18, 2019 meeting. The goal is to have this information drafted for approval at the October Planning Session (October 2, 2018).

New Business

Abbot reviewed the highlights of the May 30th District 10 conference call. The decision of the PGA headquarters potential relocation to Frisco, TX should be made by the national board of directors in the next 4-6 weeks.

Legal Counsel Marc Isaacson presented a proposal to dissolve the current CPGA's for-profit Properties Account as there is minimal activity, of which most activity has been contracted out to a third party partner (Source4). A motion was made by President Cribb to grant Executive Director Jeff Abbot authority to consult with legal counsel to dissolve the Properties Account. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Executive Session

Cribb excused staff and non-BOD members from the room to conduct Executive Session.

Adjournment

Cribb adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Abbot
Recorder for Secretary Byrd