



**Carolinas PGA Section  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
Greensboro Country Club – Irving Park  
Sunday, February 17, 2019  
1:30 pm

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**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, Tom Mason, Ben Smith, A.J. Sikula, Brock White, Jim Lohbauer, Donald Clement, Marshall Stott, Robb Wade & Dan O’Boyle

**Staff Present:** Jeff Abbot, Cory Armstrong

**Special Invitees:** Steven Hartwig (incoming Area II Director), Kelly Williams (PGA District 10 Director), John Madden (Incoming D10 Director), Mike Mueller (PGA Career Consultant), Rob Rose, Marc Isaacson & Collin Jewell

**Call to Order**

President Cribb called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

**Approval of Minutes**

President Cribb asked for a motion to approve the October 2, 2018 Board of Directors meeting minutes. The motion was offered, seconded, and approved.

**President’s Report**

President Cribb thanked everyone for coming in early for the Diversity & Inclusion training by Tara Jaye Frank and Sandy Cross. She referenced her written report and covered some of the highlights.

**Vice President’s Report**

Vice President Byrnes presented the year end 2018 financial report. The Operating Fund had a net gain of \$93,295. The majority of this gain was due to increases in corporate partnerships. The Foundation Fund generated net revenue of \$53,645. With the majority of the net revenue surplus derived from the Sunny Harris Hutchinson PGA Works Fellowship proceeds and HOPE Charleston fundraising/sponsor support. The Investment Fund was down 7.9% for the year, which yielded a \$173,462 loss and a year-end balance of \$2,005,132. This gain was in line with industry benchmarks. Overall the 2018 Consolidated Financials reported a \$24,741 loss. Despite the loss, the Section is in a favorable financial position with positive cash flow, healthy cash reserves, a strong investment fund balance and zero long term debt.

Rob Rose of Scott & Stringfellow reviewed his written annual report for the Investment Fund and explained the activity as reported by Bob Byrnes. Abbot then reviewed the 2019 operating budget.

**Secretary’s Report**

Secretary Byrd gave his report on the status of the Section’s Membership. As of February, there were 1,792 Members and 249 Associates (2,041 total) in the Section – a total of 8 more than this time in 2018.

**Staff Reports**

Executive Director Jeff Abbot discussed the highlights of his written report. He noted corporate partnerships have grown 60% over the past three years and introduced Armstrong to cover new partners for 2019.

PGA Career Consultant Michael Mueller reviewed his written report and 2019 goals. A discussion ensued on the shortage of quality assistants for hire. Mueller also emphasized the importance of the PGA Compensation Survey which is due by March 31, 2019, and our completion goal is 70%.

Carolinas PGA Legal Counsel Isaacson reviewed the complaint procedures for financial and accounting matters, as well as the Conflict of Interest/Confidentiality Disclosure statement which was issued in writing to all board members. Abbot noted the section would be audited by KPMG in May of 2020. Jewell discussed the recent dissolution of the CPGA Properties Entity with the proceeds (\$22,550) transferring to the PGA REACH Carolinas Foundation.

## **PGA of America District 10 Director's Report**

District 10 Director Kelly Williams reviewed his written report and spoke about a number of PGA of America initiatives including PGA.Coach, Cadillac's new vehicle partnership, changes to the PGA Board of Directors concerning the Honorary President and Independent Director, and the upcoming headquarters move to Frisco, TX. Abbot thanked incoming D10 Director John Madden for joining us.

## **Area Director Reports**

Area Directors' reports were each supplied in writing. Abbot reviewed the upcoming Spring Area Meeting schedule, and requested that all Area Directors assist with each of the Sections 21 Drive Chip & Putt qualifiers. Area Directors were also reminded of their 2019 approved \$2,000 budget for area expenditures.

## **Committee Reports**

All Committee Reports were submitted in writing. *Awards:* A request was made by PGA Member Doug Hodges to create an annual award for diversity & inclusion efforts. The board recommended this award, as well as a Patriot Award (military initiatives) to be reviewed and considered by the section awards committee. *Governance:* Chairperson John Marino made a motion, which was seconded and approved unanimously to supply educational funding to each chapter to encourage joint educational initiatives between chapters and their respective areas. The funding was based on \$10 per member and approved as follows: Hilton Head Island Chapter (\$3,200), Mountains Chapter (\$2,600) and South Carolina Chapter (\$1,100). The Governance Committee will be reviewing the current area/chapter governance model and making recommendations for 2020. *Public Relations:* Miller noted the launch of our new website and the approval of a marketing intern this summer. *Tournament:* Avant reviewed his written report and made a motion which was seconded and unanimously approved for \$2,000 in funding for the inaugural Women's Pro-Pro event scheduled this summer at River Run CC.

## **Old Business**

None

## **New Business**

The board was asked to save the dates of June 17 & 18 for the board retreat tentatively scheduled for Cashiers, NC. The fall planning session is scheduled for Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at Charlotte CC, the day after the PGA REACH Harvick4Heroes Charity Pro-AM on Monday, September 30 also at Charlotte CC.

The board also discussed the elimination of mailed paper checks for the 2020 tournament season and requiring members to enroll in ACH/Direct Deposit. The board was unanimously in favor of this requirement and will further discuss at the June board planning session.

CPGA Member Mary Thomas submitted a written request for the CPGA board to request the PGA of America to allow PAT examiners the right to utilize lift, clean and place/preferred lies during the exam. The PGA of America currently does not allow preferred lies. The board unanimously supported this request and tasked the staff to draft a memo to the national membership committee and copy D10 Director Kelly Williams.

The board also discussed the new PGA only Drive, Chip & Putt events scheduled during the Players Championship and new Fall Business Summit & Teaching Summit, and volunteer opportunities at the PGA Professional Championship at Belfair the week of April 28, 2019.

Abbot reviewed the SUPER SHOW schedule of events and proposed dues increase covered in Resolution 1. He then thanked the Officers and Board for their support and service.

## **Executive Session**

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

## **Adjournment**

Cribb adjourned the meeting at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Abbot  
Recorder for Secretary Byrd