

Riverbend Golf Club Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting - Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2024

The BOD meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by President Kevin Kennelley.

Present: Kevin Kennelley, John Melson (via Zoom), Ken Kotansky, Bill Barry, Chuck Howard, Elizabeth Haney, Absent: Rosalie Deitz

Liz Haney, Secretary confirmed the meeting was properly warned and we had a quorum present.

Minutes Approval: The minutes of the November 15, 2023, Golf Board meeting were approved as submitted.

President's Report

- President Kennelley thanked the golf staff for the work accomplished throughout 2023 that all of us can be proud of.
- The Board has been diligently managing our expenses and we are well within the yearly budget.
- One of the Board's top priorities is Safety on the course and asked the membership to be aware of potential hazards that can exist. During 2023 we had several accidents on the golf course that could have easily been avoided.
- The Board is studying a request from some of our members to understand all the issues and costs concerning the installation of Forward Tees. More will be discussed on this issue later in the agenda.

Treasurer's Report (Kevin Kennelley presented the Financial Report for John Melson)

The financial statement for December 2023, which is the ninth month of our fiscal year, reflects a gain of \$109,252. The Golf Club had total cash on hand of \$548,464 on December 31, 2023.

To date, October quarterly maintenance fees have been paid by all but five of the membership. Four accounts are in foreclosure and one account is expected to go to collections.

The number of golf rounds billed in December were as follows:

<u>Members</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD Prior</u>
18 holes	863	6332	7118
9 holes	465	3709	5272
<u>Guests</u>			
18 holes	116	1021	1180

9 holes	34	415	598
<u>Total</u>			
18 holes	979	7391	8298
9 holes	499	4140	5870

Total Membership numbers to date are RB 311, NP 42, FM 108 (DeScalo, Keelty, Schoch and Skaletsky terminated), AS 5

Greens Committee

El Nino weather conditions and the Polar Vortex effect have increased our cloud cover, precipitation totals and decreased temperatures. The lack of sunlight, increased precipitation rates and cooler temperatures have combined in decreasing our turfgrasses ability to grow. In response, preparations are being made for potential El Nino winters.

- We are using aggressive aerification, heavy topdressing, timely fertilization, water management, overseeding, increased rough heights and cart traffic monitoring to support our quality of turfgrass through tough growing conditions.
- Continued agronomic efforts are being made to our wet week areas (#2, #10). #2 Fwy was overseeded, and now grown in, creating a drier even stand of turfgrass for the winter season.
- The #10 green was aerified 4 times and French drains installed. Future improvements for these areas are presently being budgeted for summer 2024.
- Specific agronomic processes were implemented to keep our greens rolling true and create consistent green speed, all while supporting a solid turf surface, Mowing, rolling, brushing, aerification, topdressing and plugs harvested from our nursery green are used to support and replace weak spots from our greens.
- Bill Barry asked members and their guests to continue to practice good golf course etiquette to keep the course in condition.
 - Operate golf carts with caution.
 - Use handrailing when entering and exiting halfway house.
 - Keep cart windshields up when entering and exiting driving range area.
 - Fill your divots smoothly as well as others (including tee boxes).
 - Repair your ball marks and one other on the green.
 - Follow cart restrictions.
 - Use green sand provided around the golf course to keep personal sand containers and golf cart containers full.
 - Keep all 4 wheels on the cart path and remember all Par 3's are Cart Path Only.

Golf Course Landscape

(Golf Course Landscaping report was given by Elizabeth Haney for Rosalie Deitz)

- The projects at the end of hole #9 and beginning at hole # 10 (close to red tees) are complete with the planting of a Canary, 2 Sylvester palms and grasses.
- Between holes 9 & 10, Cocina was placed.
- Grasses were planted in the 9 & 10 hole area and on the north side of the Halfway House.
- Clusia was planted along the South/West side of the range to form a hedge to defer range balls from going out beyond the range area.

Pro Shop Report

- Jack Bennett and his committee were thanked for organizing the “Italian Scramble” (Mixed 9H Scramble), held on January 14, 2024. There was a full field of 100 players with dinner served after the event. Results will be posted to all members, and available on Channel #63 , RB Instagram, and Facebook.
- The next Mixed-Event is the Las Vegas Scramble scheduled for Sunday, February 11, 2024.
- To register for a League, please sign up at the Pro Shop.

Ranger Report

- There are 15 rangers and 5 backups.
- Ken reminded the members the Rangers approach players, with courtesy and etiquette and that Rangers are there to protect the course for the benefit of you, the member.
- Please repair divots on the par 3 tee boxes, however, please fill your divots on tee boxes, fairways and
- driving range.
- The Ranger Cart carries a basic first aid kit.
- Members were reminded:
 - the course is only for golfers and not casual walkers,
 - members should not enter the driving range, other than playing a shot from #8 or #11
 - Keeping the pace of play - Just Be Ready.
- President Kennelly pointed out there are AED units in the Club House, the Halfway House and at Security, the have been checked are recertified as of August 2023.
- Members are encouraged to volunteer to be a Ranger. Contact Ken Kotansky

Documents Committee

- No Report

Membership/Marketing/Summer Program

(Membership report was given by Elizabeth Haney for Rosalie Deitz)

- 311 Riverbend
- 42 North Passage
- 111 (Mr. Brian Terry, new member, Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Descalo, terminated)
- 5 Associated (non-equity)

- Preliminary work has begun regarding the 2024 Summer Membership Program
- Dyann Kotansky has joined on as a member of the Membership Committee. .

Unfinished Business

- The Board received a request from 2 members asking to allow the use of push carts anytime during the day and pay the current cart fee. Our rule 3.8 states no push carts until walking hours. We have an issue with pace of play and we have a rule in place concerning push carts, therefore, currently we are not going to change the rule to allow push carts on the course other than during posted walking hours. A letter concerning this decision will be sent to the 2 members. There was no further discussion from the board on this topic.

New Business

- Forward Tee Request - A request was received to have the BOD discuss the option of adding and or constructing forward tees (adding a 4th tee option) to the Riverbend Golf Course.

Membership Comments were held – to discuss the Forward Tee topic

- The Board gave the membership in attendance at the meeting an opportunity to voice their opinions, both pros and cons concerning the implementation of forward tees, along with alternative ideas.
- The Board made the following comments in response:
 - Our current red tees are “Forward Tees.” We have handicaps in place to equalize the scoring.
 - The USGA recommends forward tees to be between 4,600 – 4,200 yds. Riverbend’s current Red Forward tees are 3,885 yds. Riverbend’s current red tees are 1,000 yds shorter than USGA recommended distances for Forward Tees.
 - Bill Barry, Greens Chair and Jeff Heward, Superintendent gave comments concerning the cost to implement and maintain additional tees on Riverbend. The 7 tees (old original tees) you see as small “bumps” on the course were constructed 50 years ago. If we made those 7 tees, as “forward tees”, the maintenance of these 7 tees on a regular basis is an additional annual cost of \$10,196 (labor, chemicals, fertilizers, mowing etc.). These are small tee boxes,

and RB does not have a mower to manage the smaller size tee, therefore we would have to purchase a push mower for approximately \$16K.

- To construct 11 new tee boxes would cost approximately \$168K which is a cost passed on to each member as dues increase or a special assessment. (increase yearly dues +/- \$408 per membership)
- There are many other projects on the golf course that have higher priority. Therefore, the Board is not going to build new tees, due to the cost and other higher priority projects.

The Meeting adjourned at 4:32pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth M. Haney
Secretary