



British Columbia Golf Superintendents Association

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A Meeting of the British Columbia Golf Superintendents Association was held at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 15, 2011, at the Best Western Tower Inn in Quesnel, BC.

A Quorum was established with 31 members present.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

Moved by Brian Klein, seconded by Greg Broome that the Agenda, as distributed, be adopted.

"Carried"

Minutes:

Moved by Janus Barzilay, seconded by Lawrence Kinch that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held March 7, 2011 be approved.

"Carried"

REPORTS:

Office Report

The collection of membership dues and outstanding invoices is going well. All outstanding amounts from 2010 have now been collected. The office sent out dues collected to date to each of the five regions in June of this year. Remainders owing to each region, along with any late fees collected, will be sent out in the fall as soon as all dues have been collected.

An amount of \$20,000.00 was transferred from the chequing account to the savings account at the beginning of July in order to earn a little more interest. Due to Ron Olausson's leaving the Arbutus Ridge Golf Course, the cheque signing authority for the BCGSA was changed to Dean Piller in July of this year. The amount of \$826.31 which was collected in the Dave Creamer Memorial Bursary Fund, was transferred to the Vancouver Island region as they will be administering the Dave Creamer Bursary in the future. An amount of \$1,500.00 was forwarded to the BC Allied Golf Association for the Lobby Days Initiative.

The Board changed over to a new conference calling plan in April that resulted in considerable savings for conference calling. The Board is also looking at incorporating company logos into the sponsorship signs for future tournaments. Thanks to Dena Gent for all the time she has put into the arrangements and organization of the Exchange Tournament this year.

A poster is being made up to be sent to education facilities that have a Turfgrass Program, together with applications for the Brian Finnigan Memorial Bursary. These will be sent out the first part of September with a November 15th deadline for applications.

The summer issue of the DogWood was sent out in July. The next issue will go out in October. We're always looking for articles and content. We send out monthly newsletters as often as we have material or information to be sent, the last one was sent out the last Friday of July.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Tromp

Moved by Warren Blue, seconded by Greg Broome that the Office Report be accepted, as read.

"Carried"

Financial Report

Aug 11, 2011 -	Chequing Account	\$22,352.68
	Savings Account	50,085.79
	TOTAL	\$72,438.47
	Receivables	12,353.60

Moved by Brett Lamontagne, seconded by Janus Barzilay, that the Financial Statement dated August 11, 2011 be accepted.

"Carried"

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Brian Finnigan Memorial Fund

It was reported that the deadline for applying for the Brian Finnigan Memorial Fund Bursary was extended to November 15th due to a lack of applications received in previous years.

Education Research Fund

It was reported that \$1000.00 had been donated to the WCTA Research Fund at the conference in March. There is a greater need for research now with pesticide legislation looming.

Strategic Planning Committee Report Follow-Up

Strategies for discussion at the AGM were as follows:

1. BCGSA/WCTA Relations – The WCTA asked that the BCGSA elect a member of the BCGSA to be a Director on the WCTA Board to strengthen our membership's voice and drive BCGSA initiatives. A president elect will sit in on WCTA meetings when possible and the Executive Director and Golf Industry Liaison are joining BCGSA meetings when possible. Also a BCGSA board representative will sit on the WCTA research committee. Thanks to Steve Kerbrat for assuming that post at this time. Davin thanked Jerry Rousseau and Jeff Bennett for taking the time to attend the meetings of the BCGSA, which has really enhanced the communication between the BCGSA and WCTA.
2. Educational Opportunities – The Board was asked to increase quantity and quality of educational opportunities for members at regional and provincial meetings. This is being accomplished with a great speaker yesterday and the BCGSA is also providing a pre-conference speaker at the upcoming WCTA conference. Davin thanked Dean Piller and Steven Kerbrat for making the arrangements for the guest speaker for the Exchange Tournament, Roch Gausson.
3. Public Awareness – Steps continue to be taken to promote our association, our members and the profession to the public in British Columbia. This is an ongoing endeavour as articles will continue to be sent to local and provincial newspapers for print.
4. Allied Associations – The importance of members to continue to actively support Allied Associates, i.e. CGSA, WCTA) is ongoing.

Financial Report – Janus Barzilay asked, in regard to the Financial Report, what the "Accounts Receivable" pertained to. Ralph Tromp explained that all of the unpaid advertising and unpaid dues invoices are the "Accounts Receivable".

CORRESPONDENCE:

Darren Reddekopp Email:

- Kootenay endeavor to combat the proposed pesticide legislation:
- Plans to meet with all 4 local MLA's
- Develop some talking points and send them around to their members
- Asking each member to contact their local MLA by phone or letter and discuss the issue with them but avoiding a form letter

- They are going to travel and meet with each MLA for at least 15 minutes. Hopefully at a course in the region and hopefully over a game of golf. They are going to discuss the proposed law from our point of view.
- I think this is something that every region should be doing. We are missing the opportunity to be proactive and will not have the same strength in a reactive situation.
- Every individual should be reaching out to their local MLA and if your MLA happens to be part of the special Committee then you should reach out twice as hard.

Darren Reddekopp spoke at length about his experience in battling the pending "Bill" before the legislature to ban the use of pesticides. He said that he had the local N.D.P. MLA, Lorne MacDonald, out to Greywolf. As they toured the golf course together, Darren said that he pointed out and demonstrated why pesticides are needed to maintain golf courses. Darren said that he didn't know if he converted the MLA, but he definitely made a case for golf. Darren said that he emphasized the fact of what golf courses bring to the provincial economy and what negative impact a pesticide ban would have. He said that everybody in each of the regions should take the same initiative with their respective MLA's. Darren concluded in saying how he had developed a list of talking points, which would prove to be useful when approaching MLA's. He added that the list would be distributed among the members within the next couple of weeks.

Dean Piller commented on how Doug Fleming, an MLA who's portfolio is to review the Bill, along with Kris Johnsson, will be touring Cordova Bay Golf Course on August 19th. Dean stated how Cordova Bay's Audobon Certification status demonstrates the golf course's concern for the environment. He commented on how pesticides could be better classified (i.e.: plant protectant as to pesticide).

Jerry Rousseau stated that it is important see "action plans" in place before the fall sitting of the legislature. He spoke on what the National Allied Golf Association has done so far in regards to the pesticide issue. Jerry emphasized the importance of everyone getting involved and that the message be the same by everybody.

NEW BUSINESS:

BCGSA Logo

The office made a cosmetic change to the BCGSA Logo to tidy up the lettering and have it saved in a universal format for printing purposes.

Conference Hospitality Suite

- A BCGSA funded hospitality suite is being implemented at the 2012 WCTA conference and will likely run alongside the Dave Creamer Memorial Hockey Game
- Save-on-Foods Memorial Arena is being explored as the site for 2012

Pre-Conference Speaker

- A BCGSA driven pre-conference speaker is scheduled for the 2012 WCTA conference
- Dr. Frank Wong has been confirmed as the speaker
- Bayer Crop Science is looking to employ his services as well and may assist with the costs

Future BCGSA Exchange Tournaments

Davin put the question to the Floor as to why there aren't more people attending our Exchange Tournaments. He mentioned how there was a great speaker, yet there are only fifty-three people registered to golf. One of the suggestions made was that perhaps September would be a better month than August to host the event. It was commented on that it would be more difficult in September, being that staffing gets severely reduced at most golf courses in the beginning of that month. Some of the other suggestions were: to forgo the golf and have one or two days of education somewhere from mid-October to mid-November, having the Exchange Tournament more centrally located, or having the Exchange Tournament coincide with the hosting region's Windup Tournament.

DogWood Articles

It was brought up as to what a huge source of revenue the DogWood magazine was for the BCGSA and that to keep our advertisers interest, there needs to be more content and hopefully from the membership. It was said that the BCGSA office would assist anyone who would like to put together an article.

Friends of the Environment – Section of Website

- A section dedicated to environmental stewardship has been set up on the BCGSA website and content is requested

2011 BCGSA Superintendent of the Year Nominations:

Deadline for nominations for the BCGSA Superintendent of the Year is November 15, 2011.

Roster Information:

Davin conveyed to those in attendance how it was important to review their contact information in the roster and to verify whether or not it is correct. If not, they should contact Ginny at the provincial office with the correct information. Also, it is important for everyone to get their pesticide license number and expiration date to Ginny as well.

CALL FOR ANY OTHER BUSINESS FROM FLOOR:

ALLIED ASSOCIATION REPORTS:

CGSA – Greg Austin

Greg Austin reported how each province in Canada is involved with the NAGA. He said how the CGSA Fall Field Day is in Dundee, Prince Edward Island on September 18-19, 2011. The CGSA Board of Directors will be meeting at the Fall Field Day event. At that time, Greg said that he will be able to get more financial information as to how the CGSA is doing.

Greg mentioned that there have been some significant budget reductions at the CGSA office. Two full time office employees had to be laid off and another full time position had to be cut back to part time. The CGSA is exploring ways to make more revenue and to provide better service for its members. The Association is striving to move ahead in a positive direction while remaining economically feasible.

The 2012 CGSA Conference will be in Calgary from February 5-9. Greg also spoke on the number of National Tour Events that were held in B.C. last year. He said that the Host Superintendents were recognized for their efforts with a plaque presentation. These superintendents were Rob Barr at Shaughnessy, Brett Finlayson at Arbutus Ridge, Brian Youell at Uplands, and Jim O'Connor at Rivershore. Greg finished his report in saying that there is some footage of both Rob Barr and Jim McGarvey during a press conference on U-Tube.

BC AGA Report

Davin Marr reported on how the newly formed BC AGA represents all of the golf entities of British Columbia. The group met on July 27th in Vancouver. Greg Austin also attended that meeting. Davin said that, cost wise, the BCGSA gave \$1500 as initial seed money to support the BC AGA in its efforts of representing the interests of the golf community. We are looking for ways of raising funds to support new initiatives made, particularly in efforts made to halt the provincial pesticide legislation. This is an ongoing process in communicating with MLA's in hopes of them understanding how this legislation will hinder the golf industry. Davin said that there would be another meeting in Victoria on August 22. Kris Johnsson will be at that meeting representing our concerns.

WCTA – Jerry Rousseau

Transition was the word being used a lot over the last couple of years, still relevant as WCTA internal systems are slowly upgraded. I don't want to say the word we're using a lot right now!

Jerry Rousseau spoke on the upcoming meeting in Victoria on August 22. He said how, even though Kris Johnsson will be there representing us, it would be good to have others as well who are more technically well-versed on pesticides representing us. Jerry said how the WCTA office has had several phone calls through the past year enquiring if there was someone who could assist people on the regional level (i.e.: town hall meetings, municipal meetings, etc.).

NAGA BC, Pesticides issues and update

- Lobby day May 18, several meetings since to address this issue
- NDP private member's bill M 203, 5 year exemption for putting greens only
- NAGA BC has written a letter to Standing Committee on Cosmetic Pesticides and has attended both meetings
- We're encouraging everyone to contact local MLA's via phone/letters/email. We are also hoping that regional golf industry personnel will group together to meet with MLA's as the Kootenay Chapter is currently working on.
- Fall back position, i.e. Audubon, IPM, mandatory membership???

CEC program

- OFA Level 1 First aid certificates
- Still working on WHMIS and WorkSafe BC
- Lots of upcoming events and opportunities, check the TLN and www.wctaturf.com

Research

- Program back up and running after 1 year hiatus and priorities are set as follows:
 - Nutrient and fertility management, best management practices
 - Soil and root-zone management, best management practices
 - Evaluation of alternatives to pesticides
 - Irrigation and water use issues (water quality and reducing water usage)
 - Investigations into the biology, ecology and management of current and emerging pests
 - Alternative cultivar and species for new turf construction, integration and conversion into existing turf areas Species/cultivar evaluation and improved management practices for areas of heavy traffic and wear tolerance
- Approximately \$18,000 in funding will be disbursed this year to:
 - \$6600 will be put toward national partnership funding (CTRF)
 - KPU biological control of 3 major turfgrass insect pests: chaffer, crane fly & cutworms (\$5000)
 - Dr. Brian Holl – safety and performance of synthetic turf fields. This project had been previously approved for funding but had been put on hold for personal reasons.
- Currently working toward dramatically increasing the funding levels in this province through NAGA BC

2011 Conference and Trade Show, Jan 29-Feb 3, 2011-08-22

- We hope everyone enjoyed it!
- Attendance was 1009 delegates, forecast was just under 1100.
- Successful financially for the WCTA based on 54% of attendees from BC
- CGSA hasn't really shared their final financials but pre-conference seminars were less attended than expected and trade show revenue was off significantly.

2012 Conference and Trade Show, Jan 21 – 24, 2012 - Victoria, BC

- Organization has commenced and we're working on both large and subtle changes to accommodate the feedback we've been receiving, i.e. **TOO EXPENSIVE**
- Run through of program: KPU Turf Club golf Tournament on Saturday Jan 21 at Highland Pacific, Sunday pre conference seminars times 2, Sunday afternoon AGM and 'Prairie Dinner, Tuesday banquet moves off-site and is optional

- Dave Creamer Memorial hockey game Monday night tied in with BCGSA Social evening (still in the planning stage).

Other:

- We would like to organize a provincial pesticide disposal program

Upcoming Events:

- VIPGSA Equipment Show Sept 16
- NTA Sept 25-27
- Can-West Sept 28-29
- Premier Pacific trip Oct 11-13

OTHER BUSINESS FROM FLOOR:

There was much discussion on the seriousness and urgent need to become more proactive in the pesticide debate. Funding was a big area of concern. Due to the lengthy discussion that ensued from the various reports made in regards to the efforts being made to stop the new pesticide legislation from becoming law, it was felt that the BCGSA acquire someone to represent the interest of the golf superintendents at these meetings.

Moved by Ladd LeGeyt, seconded by Scott Mitchell that the BCGSA fund the expenses for someone to represent the BCGSA at the meeting on August 22, 2011 in Victoria.

"Carried"

NEXT MEETING OF THE BCGSA:

The Annual General Meeting of the BCGSA will take place at the Western Canada Turfgrass Conference and Tradeshow on January 23, 2012, 11:00 am in Victoria, BC

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Brett Lamontagne that there being no further business, the meeting adjourn. (10:37 am)

Davin Marr
President

Kevin Schiefner,
Vice President