



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2018

Location: Home of Natalia Bausback

Present: Natalia Bausback (President), Stephanie Brown (Communications), Michelle Burton (Golf Programs), Michele Endries (Membership Recruitment), Emma Maceko (Events), Julie Naglieri (Marketing), Christine Kelly Powers (Member Services), Katie Vitello (Finance)

Key: → = follow-up item

* = vote

Agenda

1. Minutes

* Vote to accept November minutes: motion, Endries; second, Maceko. In favor: unanimous.

2. Membership

Endries reported current membership at 220 including two promised renewals. Powers said she had prepared and would soon begin emailing 2017 volunteer awards certificates, total value \$815, for 74 member volunteers.

3. Social Events

Maceko reported that the January happy hour was canceled due to a snowstorm and she would hold off until the February event at The Rust Nail instead of rescheduling. March happy hour date choice for the City Beer Hall depends on avoiding conflict with Times Union Center events. Jen Shoemaker has agreed to run the Bowling Blast again, in March.

Maceko is working to recruit a captain for the Spring Kick-Off Event; she is able to take a more active role in planning this event because of a job change. Board members discussed date choice in relation to league open registration and Easter. Thursday, March 29, emerged as the target date for open registration, with the kick-off held the preceding Tuesday if possible.

4. Golf Programs

Burton reported that Michele Walls has agreed to continue as handicap director. For events, Robin Raco is again running the winter golf league and Gail Czelusniak has agreed to run the Thruway Challenge in August. Burton is now focusing on finding volunteers to run spring golf clinics and the Chapter Championship.

Two course contracts for leagues have been signed, with Fairways of Half Moon and Van Patten, for fees the same or close to 2017. Burton is talking to 2017 league captains and considering steering Colonial Acres members to French's Hollow, and inaugurating a Par 3 league at Saratoga Spa.

Bausback reported on her conversation with Gail Sundling about the relationship between the Chapter and Diva events. Board members affirmed Bausback's and Sundling's agreement to use proceeds from Diva 50/50 drawings, typically conducted at Diva events by volunteers who are Chapter members, for covering Diva expenses such as goodie bags for participants. Brown said that Chapter communications will list Diva dates as "affiliated" events, not official Chapter ones.

5. Chapter Playbook and Annual Agreement

Bausback provided a draft of the Playbook due to EWGA National at month-end, while observing that the Board was awaiting results from the member survey now underway to truly inform strategic and program planning. Board members further noted that EWGA itself is undertaking a major strategy review.

All Board members affirmed they have read the annual agreement between the Chapter and EWGA.

6. 2018 Budget

Vitello distributed a draft 2018 budget. She said that the Chapter's current cash balance of about \$31,000 was on the low side compared to the high, over the past nine years, of about \$38,000 in 2015. She posed two points for the Board to consider: Should we continue setting \$3,500 at the target for the annual spend-down amount? And is \$25,000 still an appropriate reserve amount for the Chapter to attain?

After discussion, Board members agreed to set a lower spend-down target in the budget to be adopted, and revisit this amount halfway through the year before allocating subsidies to fall events.

Budget discussions touched on a member's request to offer other event payment options besides PayPal, which perhaps could also reduce the transaction fees the Chapter pays. Brown noted, however, that Constant Contact, the Chapter's event management system, accepts only PayPal for online payments.

* A vote to approve the completed budget, with a spend-down target of \$2,500, was conducted via email starting January 28, and passed unanimously.

7. Board Meetings

- Brown will host the February 13 meeting at her home at 5:30 pm. Tentative upcoming locations are March 13 at Burton's home and April 10 at Powers's home.

- During golf league season, Board meetings will move to Wednesdays at 6 pm.

* Vote to adjourn: motion, Naglieri; second, Endries. In favor: unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.