

MGC BoD Meeting Wednesday 7 September 2016

Members in Attendance

John Stanton - President
John Foottit - Secretary/V
Ken Maheral - Membership
Dave Evans - House
Tom Reynolds - Treasurer

Staff in Attendance

Dan Kolar - Manager
Bill Hudson - Greenskeeper

Decision Record

1. The meeting was convened at 6:45 PM.
2. The final draft of the Irrigation System requirements document (including a map layout) has been completed thanks primarily to the diligence of Bill Hudson and Ian Edwards. Bids from watering equipment suppliers, pump suppliers, and installers will now be sought.
3. Jane France and Ian Edwards have met with representatives from the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) and the Municipality of Mississippi Mills with regard to extending our pump house closer to the river so that vertical turbine pumps could be installed. An application to increase our limit to draw river water by about 40% is also being sought (currently at 1.6 million litres per day). So far these discussions are progressing well, but further meetings and site inspections are scheduled.
4. The Treasurer indicated that we continue to track slightly ahead of budget but that we should not expect a surplus this year.
5. The Manager advised that some changes to the new member information package have been made, but further reviews will

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need to be done over the winter. In particular, the club can benefit from the approach taken by the Ladies' Executive when they welcome new members. We currently have had 22 new members sign up during our "Fall Special".

6. The Greenskeeper brought an article to the attention of the Board that says most younger golfers seek a subjective, on line assessment of the playing experience of others at a particular course before making a green fee reservation. The Manager will therefore investigate what golf course rating web sites are available in Ontario and what costs, if any, are involved to include the our course on them.
7. The Greenskeeper said that an arborist will once again be tasked this fall with taking down some dead trees and trimming others. The Board asked that he look at trimming some larger trees on number 1 fairway (at the corner) number 9 fairway (ahead of the tee box) and number 17 (widening the gap off the tee). The Greenskeeper advised that any trimming of mature trees involved some risk of killing them and must therefore be done with caution.
8. A preliminary plan for improving the patio has been received by the Manager but further iteration with a potential contractor will need to be done before a final design and price can be established. The Board, in particular, wants to have a "wrap-around" patio or deck that includes the river-view south side. This project may not be possible in the near term unless sufficient funding can be identified.
9. The Board tasked the Greenskeeper with removing the dilapidated "gazebo" shelter between 15 and 16 rather than incur the cost of fixing it. Given that this location is one of the furthest from the club house, we may have to consider replacing it with a simpler structure.
10. The Greenskeeper provided a sample of some fairway turf that showed sufficient thatch but very shallow roots. This condition is

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prevalent on all of our fairways. An important step to encourage root growth is “verticutting”, but we do not currently have equipment that will do this work effectively. The Board authorized the Greenskeeper to purchase a verticutter that will run from the power take-off on our tractors at an estimated cost of \$15,000. The Greenskeeper advised that there would likely be opportunities to rent this equipment to other golf courses because, typically, only higher end courses such as the Ottawa Hunt Club currently have it.

11. To accommodate the travel plans of some Board members and to allow the Irrigation Committee some additional time, a decision was taken to delay the 2016 Annual General Meeting until the Wednesday 26 October at 7 PM.
12. The meeting adjourned at 8 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 4 October at 6 PM at the Myers’ boardroom.
13. The Greenskeeper’s report is attached.
14. If any member has a question or concern, please contact me at john.foottit@gmail.com.

John Foottit
Secretary/VP

Greens Report

Greens were solid-tine aerified on August 29th Almonte nine and August 30th Carleton Place nine. The weather was excellent and holes are filling in nicely. We will be cutting at .125 throughout the next 3-4 weeks. Seeing our students have gone back to school we will start single cutting daily and single rolling on Tuesday, Thursday and once on the weekend for the remainder of the season.

Tees were aerified, heavily seeded and fertilized during the weeks of August 15 and 22.

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Fairways will be core aerified this month and we will finally finish seeding the grub damaged areas. This has been a huge problem all summer as we had no time to core aerify in the spring as it was too dry and not enough staff. Also impossible to keep areas watered. The fairways are very thatchy and need to be aerified and should be verticut but we don't have a proper machine to do the job.

Grubs – we are monitoring for the next generation of white grubs and so far have only found a limited number of very small newly hatched ones which will hopefully eventually be controlled by the long-acting insecticide we have applied.