

**MINUTES OF MARCH 22, 2023 MISGA BOARD MEETING PROSPECT BAY COUNTRY CLUB,
GRASONVILLE, MD**

President Tom Ciandella called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and welcomed all in attendance, including club reps not on the board but invited to attend the board meeting. Directors present, including division reps and assistant reps were Tom Ciandella, Paul Bate, Eric Branfman, Michael Olson, Jake Jacobi, Jack Sullivan, Jim Ewalt, Lloyd Stimson, Bob Hodges, Chuck Woods, Tom Tarpley and Ken Bacon. Absent directors were George Blair, Greg Morris, Pete Sorge, Carl Lazar and Wayne Rowland.

Tom asked visiting club reps and assistant reps to introduce themselves and explained there would be open discussions among reps and directors following the board meeting adjournment. Tom encouraged reps to review the reps' guide on the MISGA website as well as the MISGA bylaws.

Upon motion and second, minutes of the December 5, 2022 were approved as distributed previously.

President Ciandella reviewed the treasurer report absent George Blair. There is a \$2000 contingency expense line item to allow for unanticipated expenses during the year. The budget was distributed previously and preliminarily approved by the board at its December meeting.

Division reports highlights:

I. All clubs have remained from 2022 although associates count is for the time being below last year. Division reps met in the fall to develop play dates for the 2023 season.

II. Jake Jacobi has agreed to step in for calendar 2023 only as division rep. He needs an assistant rep for this year to assume primary role next season. Thanks to previous rep Jeff Hild and President Ciandella expressed our thanks and appreciation to Jake for stepping in to assure the continuation of Div II.

IV. Report distributed earlier and Paul Bate advised the division had lost 120 associates who had belonged through Manor leaving MISGA. He is concerned about Blue Marsh which is going through a change in ownership and has cancelled their mixer for May. He announced that the division treasury would be paying the \$50 annual club dues for each participating course.

VI. Chartwell has dropped out of MISGA and 11 clubs remain. Reps will be meeting in April to consider enrollment in Golf Genius. The UofMD club is reviewing increased labor and food costs of the university food service.

Committee Reports:

Associates - Club dues of \$50 due April 1 and associate dues of \$10 per member are due June 1. Club reps will soon be receiving a spread sheet summarizing 2022. Club division summary reports are to be prepared by division rep and each club must submit their reports to their respective division rep.

Following discussion of the deadline for associate dues, a motion and second were made to extend payment deadline for associate dues to September 1, which motion passed unanimously.

Audit - Jack Sullivan has audited the MISGA annual tournaments financials and Pete Sorge reviewed special events financials. Jack noted all transactions and entries were in order and observed that the decline in associate dues was the most noticeable issue impacting the budget.

General Counsel - Jim Ewalt advised there are currently no legal issues.

Historian - Lloyd Stimson mentioned updates completed on board actions, board roster and past MISGA presidents.

Membership - No report submitted by Carl Lazar.

MISGAGram - Editor-in-chief Bob Hodges was thanked by the board for his work with the newsletter and the timeliness of articles and events featured.

AdHoc - Tom Tarpley mentioned that presentations of the green jacket would, starting today, occur at the annual board and reps meeting each March. This year the jacket was presented to immediate past president Chuck Woods, along with a clock presented by President Ciandella.

Policy and Planning - Chuck Woods had no updates to report.

Rules and Handicaps – Wayne Rowland was not present and had no report. A new chair is being sought for this committee.

Tournaments - Greg Morris was absent but Lloyd Stimson distributed flyers on ABCD to be held August 21 and Past Presidents/2-Man July 31. Each club sending participants must send their list to their division rep or division tournament chair who will then compile and forward to the MISGA tournament chair. Each club will be advised of an allocation for participation but may exceed that if space is available at the deadline for registration.

Webmaster - Jake Jacobi announced the MISGA site has been updated and showing current information on participating clubs and he asked division reps to carefully review their page on the site to assure play fees and names with contact information are correct. Ken Bacon generously offered to serve as “assistant webmaster” which offer was promptly accepted by the board.

Old Business

President Ciandella suggested if there are ever individual MISGA associates who wish to play at a mixer where their club is not playing, they need to contact their own division rep who will in turn check with the host club rep. He also asked for suggestions for a new Division II rep to assume duties in 2024.

Following the December board meeting, a subcommittee was formed to develop a policy regarding what level of reserves the organization should maintain (Ciandella, George Blair, Chuck Woods and Gary Manion). It was determined that target should be no more than 150% of current year budget. With a budget of \$19,000 the target for reserves would be \$28,500. Based on upcoming maturities of CDs, excess funds over this amount will be distributed to the divisions, estimated between \$5-6,000 for all divisions, split by associates. This will be determined once accurate associate counts are reported.

Chuck Woods reviewed the fee paid to GoTo for use of their service for online meetings. He has reduced the number of licenses from 5 to 1 and the service is now available for division “live” online meetings by contacting Chuck for access.

New Business

A proposal to further define composition of the MISGA board of directors was presented by President Ciandella. Upon motion and second, the board approved defining the board voting members to include president, immediate past president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and division directors and assistant directors. The board now has a total of 9 directors with a vacancy in Division II assistant director.

A motion and second were made and passed unanimously to modify bylaws to delete Section 1-J which designates the immediate past president as a “non-voting” member, given the new language designating that office as a voting member.

It was announced that club reps have historically met the second Monday of April each year. This was changes to meeting prior to the beginning of each season, mid-March to early April. The constitution is to be amended to reflect governance changes approved to the bylaws.

President Ciandella advised he had been contacted by a rep of the Maryland Deaf Golfers Association seeking participation in MISGA. Following spirited discussion on the issue of unaffiliated players joining a MISGA mixer, consensus emerged to suggest to such individuals

they affiliate with one of the public clubs in MISGA and become an associate through that club.

On motion and second, a proposal to allow \$.65.5 per mile reimbursement for director travel to board meetings passed with one dissenting vote.

On motion and second, unanimous approval was given to amend the Bylaws Section VI, E. 1. D to change the word "club" to "association".

The 2023 proposed MISGA budget, given preliminary approval in December, was presented to the board for final approval and passed by unanimous vote.

The board meeting was then adjourned at 10:55 a.m.