

**STLWDGA
SPRING OPENING GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**April 12, 2019
Norwood Hills Country Club**

President, Gerry Wisniewski, NW, called the 2019 Spring General Meeting to order at 11:10 a.m.

Gerry announced copies of the 2018 Fall Closing Meeting minutes were placed on each table for review.

Gerry introduced herself and members of the Board in attendance as follows: Vickie Ressler, Vice President, MB; Bev Frein, Tournament Chair, BH; Barb Witbrodt, Assistant Tournament Chair, STA; Margaret Farrell, Team Chair, WB; CJ Evans, Treasurer, LF; Jan Miles, Recording Secretary, FH; Oanh Wieland, Corresponding Secretary, GB; and Laurel Palmer, Rules Chair, ALG

Gerry reported a recent change of the Assistant Team Chair position previously held by Denise Wareham, LG. Denise is relocating and is not able to serve a full year. Gerry then cited, per our Constitution, the Executive Committee appointed Carol Bloss from the Legends as our Assistant Team Chair.

Gerry then noted Carol Bloss, Assistant Team Chair, LG, and Marian Sinnett, Parliamentarian/Honorary President, were not present.

Gerry recognized the attendance of following past presidents: Lucinn Sams (1995-1996) FH; Kathy Reid (2001-2002) FH; Marsha Rheinnecker (2009-2010) OW; and Pattie Canter (2013-2014) NW

Gerry then thanked the following members of the Standing Committee for volunteering their time and talents:

Auditor, Vickie Ressler, MB

Mixed Event Chair, Sherrie Wehner, GB

Nominating Committee:

Marian Sinnett, Julie Frank, WW; Gerry Wisniewski, NW

Prize Chairs:

Boobie Light, MB and Laurie Merchant, STA

Historian/Publicity

Amy Felton, MB, and Janine Reed, MB

Rules:

Laurel Palmer, ALG; Pattie Canter, NW; and Jane Hayo, SS

Webmaster, Ronnie Burg, PW

Gerry thanked Norwood's General Manager, Ken Butler, Clubhouse Manager, Zina Dambrouskaya, and Chef Darryl for Norwood's hospitality.

Upon asking, it was determined no 18-hole chairpersons were in attendance.

Gerry then asked for new members who had not received pin.

Sandy Jost, WB, and Debbie Kurt, WM, were then presented their pins.

ROLL CALL

Gerry reminded directors and alternates to sign in. According to our by-laws "only members of the Board may make motions and vote.", and that the Board consisted of the officers, all past presidents and three directors from each club.

Recording Secretary, Jan Miles, confirmed a quorum was present.

Gerry then asked for any corrections or additions to the Fall 2018 Closing Meeting minutes to which there were none. Susan Suggs, MB, made a motion to approve the minutes and Carol Baker, LF, seconded the motion. The motion carried and the minutes were approved and hereby become a part of these minutes.

REPORTS

President's Report by Gerry Wisniewski, NW

- Gerry welcomed all and thanked Executive Committee for working to create a great schedule for the 2019 season
- Gerry highlighted the following events:
 - Tournament of a Lifetime – Friday, May 17th at Sunset Country Club
 - No 50-year honoree this year – previous honorees and past presidents will be honored along with new low net and low gross champions for this year

- Mixed Event – Thursday, August 29th at Greenbriar Hills Country Club - Sherrie Wehner from Greenbriar will serve as hospitality chair. Entry forms are in the back of yearbook and on website
- St. Louis Women's District Golf Association Invitational – Mon-Fri, August 5th – 9th at Norwood Hills Country Club, West Course - Our “Championship” and most important event of season, is open to all members, 18 years up, of our 20 clubs. Non-district members from any of the clubs may also sign up. Event is pre-flighted with 16 lowest handicap players in Championship flight. Stroke play on Monday is used for seeding for flights. Brochures for distribution to non-district players are available from Gerry, CD's or Bev Frein. Entry forms are in back of yearbook and on website.
- Susan E. Shepherd Charity Event - Friday, September 20th at Forest Hills Country Club - 2019 Charity is “Joining Hands ESL”
- Gerry reported scheduling for 2020 season has already begun which includes the District's 100th anniversary celebration

A copy of the Report of President, Gerry Wisniewski, is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

Vice President Report by Vickie Ressler

- Vickie reported she has maintained an updated USGA Tournament Master Roster throughout the year as well as the Yearbook and thanked the CD's for their role in providing current information

Yearbook

- Vickie reported a Yearbook Committee,, consisting of Ronnie Burg, PW, Jackie Dezort, SSH: Jane Hayo, SS; Carol Ann Jones, STL; Marian Sinnett, Susan Suggs, MB; and Gerry Wisniewski, NW; was formed at Gerry's request by Vickie to review and edit the Yearbook to provide a condensed version to save printing costs. Information removed is available on the Roster or Yearbook at our STLWDGA website. 265 Yearbooks were printed and distributed by CD's. Additional copies may be requested with a week's lead time
- Vickie stated email addresses are now included in Yearbook and requested everyone respect members' privacy by restricting use of Yearbook and Roster to STLWGA purposes

New Members

- Vickie reported New Member Coordinators were informed of their responsibilities in recruiting new members and were given applications
- Vickie named the following new members:
Jolene Storms, PW; Heather Hey, WM; April Westerhold, WM;
Sally Giles, STL; Kim Tuttle,, MB; Kathy Alioto, MB

Junior Invitational Golf Tournament

- Vickie asked members to encourage girls ages 12-18 to sign up for the Junior Invitational Golf Tournament at Meadowbrook Country Club, Thursday and Friday, July 18th-19th. Entries are on page 42 of Yearbook

2019 Susan E. Shepherd Charity Recipient

- Vickie stated the 2019 charity is Join Hands ESL suggested by Margaret Farrell. Their mission is to empower East St. Louis people to serve children and families through youth and mentor programs and the Ubuntu Center for Peace which pursues education as a pathway out of poverty
- Vickie asked members for suggestions for a 2020 charity that assists women and children. Suggestions may be submitted by at Closing Meeting and will be reviewed and selected by Executive Committee

A copy of the Report of Vice President, Vickie Ressler, is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

Tournament Chair Report by Bev Frein

- Bev introduced herself and Barb Witbrodt, the Assistant Chair, and welcomed all
- Bev reported both Opening Day, Old Warson, April 26th, and Closing Day, Bogey Hills, Friday, October 4th, will be scrambles with sign-ups as foursomes, threesomes, twosomes or single, and encouraged singles to sign up to fill tee sheet. She reminded all to sign up for opener with CD
- Bev reported Tournament of a Lifetime will be Friday, May 17th at Sunset and the Senior Tournament will be Thursday, August 15th at St. Louis Country Club. Both are flighted, single stroke play events.
- Bev reported Three Day Stroke Play Tournament will be June 4th, 5th, and 6th, at Lake Forest on Tuesday, Glen Echo on Wednesday, and Westwood on Thursday. Entry forms from Yearbook may be given to her or Barb today or submitted by deadline of May 27th at 10:00 a.m.

- Bev reported two Best Ball tournaments scheduled for year with the first on Thursday, June 27th at St. Clair as an ABCD tournament whereby you sign up as single, and the second on Friday, September 7th at Westborough whereby sign-ups may be foursomes, threesomes, twosomes or singles
- Bev explained the sign-up process whereby she thanked the Corresponding Directors for their time and devotion. Bev further informed members that their CDs could explain details of each tournament and information also available in yearbook and website. Bev reminded members of sign up deadline being one week prior to event at 10 am and encouraged early sign up. Bev stressed that after the cutoff date for sign up, players must contact Bev directly with any changes.
- Bev then addressed the Merit System by explaining it as a point based system, with 1 point for each event played, 2 points for Three Day and Invitational play and ½ point for wait-listed players due to Merit. No points are issued for Team play or Mixed Event. Bev reported clubs allow up to 100 players and when more players are signed up then allowed, the Merit System will be invoked.
- Bev reminded members of 8:15 check in time. Players must be in cart and signed in by then. If not checked in by 8:15, players will be allowed to play, but will not receive prizes.
- Bev reminded members to turn in scorecard prior to taking clubs to car.
- Bev asked members to thank the Pro, the General Manager and the Chef and the cart staff at each event they play
- Bev thanked members and reported members may call or email her or Barb at contact information listed in yearbook or website

A copy of the Report of Tournament Chair, Bev Frein, is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

No Report of Assistant Tournament Chair, Barb Witbrodt

Team Chair Report by Margaret Farrell

- Margaret reported Algonquin, Persimmon Woods, Whitmoor, and Legends will host team play events with St. Albans hosting on July 26th to end the regular season. Semifinal and final matches have yet to be scheduled and any assistance to secure a date at a member's club would be appreciated.

A copy of the Report of Team Chair, Margaret Farrell, is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

No Report of Assistant Team Chair, Carol Bloss

Treasurer Report by CJ Evans

- CJ shared, that in review some of the old treasurer reports, some had been typed on onionskin paper with typewriters
- CJ distributed copies of her report to the tables for members
- CJ reported an October 31, 2018 outstanding balance of \$18,563.29;
- CJ reported receipts from member dues \$25,025 for a total balance of \$43,588.29 as of March 31, 2019
- CJ reported disbursements from November 1 to March 15, 2019 of \$3,438.07, leaving a balance of \$40,150.22 as of March 31, 2019
- CJ further reported \$2,500 Reserve Fund, a \$10,000 100th Anniversary Fund, and a \$200 Lorette MedArt Fund
- CJ reported receipt of dues from all clubs, with 6 new members
- CJ reported funds reside in US Bank, and all Board and Treasurer Records of District are in a storage unit at Life Storage #307

A copy of the Treasurer Report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

No Report from Recording Secretary, Jan Miles

Corresponding Secretary Report by Oanh Wieland

- Oanh reported sending a sympathy card to family of Rosalie Spenner who passed away

A copy of the Corresponding Secretary Report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

Rules Chairman Report by Laurel Palmer

- Laurel commented on importance of all members being informed of the 2019 rule changes. Each member will receive a copy of the Rule Of Golf for 2019 players edition

- Laurel stressed the importance of learning the rules by viewing videos and Laurel then played a video titled “New Rules of Golf – 20 Most Importance Changes”. This video is available on You Tube or Expert Golf, and Laurel referenced the USGA website for additional videos
- Laurel recommended a pocket sized booklet “Golf Rules Quick Reference 2019: The Practical Guide for Use on the Course – For Stroke Play and Match Play” by Yves C. Ton That which can be ordered through Amazon, Golf Galaxy or Expert Golf for about \$15
- Laurel explained that a pocket card with the 20 most important changes will be available to players at Opening Scramble at Old Warson on April 26th.
- Laurel discussed the new Local Rule E-5 which provides an extra option instead of stroke and distance where a player can place a ball in fairway where thought to be out or lost from there for a two stroke penalty.
- Laurel reported that the Committee decided this rule will not be an option for STLWDGA players and stroke and distance will be the only option for a ball out of bounds or lost during our events
- Pace of play remains ongoing concern and improvement continues to be 2019 season objective. Knowledge of new rules will assist in this effort as well as appointed foursome captains.

A copy of the Rules Chairman, Laurel Palmer, is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes

No Report from Parliamentarian/Honorary President, Marian Sinnett

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Report by Vickie Ressler

- Vickie reported she reviewed the 2019 finances to date and all figures are valid, correct as entered in ledger as well as \$2500 reserve and \$10,000.00 anniversary fund amounts

A copy of the Report of Auditor, Vickie Ressler is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

No Report from Historian/Publicity, Janine Reed/Amy Felton

No Report from Mixed Chair Event Committee, Sherrie Wehner

Report from Prize Chair Committee by Boobie Light

Boobie reported – You win, you get a prize!

No Report from Rules Committee by Laurel Palmer

No Report from Nominating Committee by Gerry Wisniewski

No Report from Website Committee by Ronnie Burg

OLD BUSINESS

Gerry asked if there was any other old business to discuss. None was presented.

NEW BUSINESS

- Gerry announced Janine Reed had a Scrapbook circulating of our 2018 season and thanked her for it
- Gerry discussed a recent change to the last round of the Championship Flight during the Invitational Tournament. The Executive Board had reviewed and investigated final matches of other women's events as to whether the final match was 18 or 36 holes. It was determined by the Board to change the last match of the Championship Flight to an 18 hole playoff. This decision hopes to promote more spectators at the end of the tournament to share in the victories of all flights.
- Pattie Cantor then reported on progress of 100th anniversary planning
 - Pattie reported past presidents or anyone can be on committee
 - Pattie reported looking at a September 2020 timeframe to accommodate snowbirds before heading out
 - The committee will go through the vault to display the history of our organization
 - This most likely will be for members only to celebrate "US"

- President Gerry Wisniewski then discussed the length of time Board members serve in their position before moving up. When recruiting new members for the Board, the positions are now for a term of one year at a time instead of two in each position. Gerry reported anyone interested in a board position should contact a member of the Nominating Committee as we are always looking for new members.
- Pattie Canter then explained that the Loretta Medart Fund was established by Loretta Medart who has passed away. This is funded by past presidents of District over the last 50 years.

Gerry then asked if there was any new business to discuss to which there was none presented.

A motion to adjourn was made by Pat Heinrich, LG and Donna Kendricks, GB, seconded it.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 11:57 am

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Miles
Recording Secretary

Converted 2019 SPRING OPENER GENERAL MINUTES