

## **Tiretown Golf Club's Special Meeting Minutes - September 11, 2023**

**Tiretown Golf Club's Special Meeting was called to order at 7 pm, Monday, September 11, 2023 at the Alpha Center by President Ralph Paulk.**

**The President's report** - touched on upcoming events then went into full discussion under new/other business.

**Northern Ohio Golf Charities golf event** - The first action item was the volunteer golf outing at Paradise Lakes sponsored by the Northern Ohio Golf Charities on Sept. 23. The measure was open for discussion. The action item was to have the club pay half of the fees of whoever wanted to play at the event. The floor was open for discussion. There were no objections.

Moe Banton made a motion to approve half of the fees be paid by the club for the Northern Ohio Golf Charities golf outing. Terry seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority consent.

Mr. President said he would like to get at least 10 or 12 participants

Dr. Rob Kamienski asked if the event was a scramble and would NOGC decide the make-up of the teams.

Moe Banton said maybe a random selection would be good. Others agreed that it might be good to meet other players and mingle. Mr. President said he could put the teams together if NOGC doesn't select the teams. He urged members to wear their club uniforms if they were playing, to let the other golfers know we are Tiretown members.

**Tiretown JazzFest** - Mr. President said the JazzFest is Friday, October 20th. Flyers were made, the Fund Development Committee decided to use Eventbrite for ticket sales. The flyer is also on the website. Cynthia Blake suggested we offer an incentive to boost ticket sales: 1 for \$85 and 2 for \$160. Members agreed that it was a good idea. The information will also be on the Tiretown website. A press release was also sent to newspapers. Clarence Mitchell Jr. said we should do it the old fashion way and just put flyers on vehicles.

**Scholarship Banquet** - Mr. President talked about the Scholarship Banquet, which will be held on October 28th and asked members to ask for ads for the program.

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**Nominating committee** - Discussion on creating a Nominating Committee for November elections. Mr. President said members can run for any position.

Paulk said VP Michael Robinson said he would like to be on the committee and serve as chair. Les Carney, Francine Blake and Willie McCall also said they would like to be on the committee. Moe Banton made a motion to create a Nominating Committee to gather a slate of officers. Dr. Kamienski seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

There was discussion on the members selecting the chairperson and how many members should be on the Nominating Committee. After the discussion Doc Kamienski recommended there should be 5 members on the Nominating Committee. Cynthia Blake second the motion, which passed by unanimous consent.

**Social Committee** - Christmas party proposals - The club discussed whether the club should have a Christmas party this year because of low turnout last year. If so, where should it be held and what should be served. The Golf Club has less than \$2,000 in its budget. Alpha Center is a non alcoholic facility and there has been grumblings that the club wants to go somewhere else because of that? Mr. President said the club still has alcohol available and Martin Latson keeps the alcohol in stock. Several members said the low turnout last year had more to do with the date than the facility. Too many scheduling conflicts with other commitments. Willie McCall said maybe the Alpha Center was too big a venue. Larry Thomas said the low turnout was also due to just getting off the pandemic. Members talked about other venues but said it might not be cost effective because there was less than \$4,000 in the club budget.

Mr. President asked Social Committee Chairman Ted DeBose if we had secured a date yet for the Christmas Party. Tiretown typically sets the third Saturday of the month for its events, but other dates were flexible. Larry Thomas said he knew for sure the first Saturday in December was not available, because of Alpha's Founders Day. No date had been secured yet.

Moe Banton made a motion to have the Christmas Party at the Alpha Center because it was free. Cynthia Blake seconded the motion. The motion was passed by majority consent.

Next there was discussion on the food venue. Mr. President asked if Tiretown should have just finger food this year, since there was too much food leftover last year. Cynthia Blake said there are caterers who offer hefty finger food and a full meal might not be necessary. Ted DeBose said our regular caterer, Randy, is ready to do the job and just

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needs the go ahead. Dubose said it was his opinion to go with a full meal. Members complained that last year's Christmas meal was not very good and it was very noticeable.

Willie McCall said he would like the club to serve a full meal and thinks that's what members look forward to having at the Christmas Party. That's the way it's been for years. The matter will go back to the Christmas Party Committee as part of the Social Committee.

Bookkeeper Debra Turner was asked if money from charities could be used by the club for the Christmas Party. Yes, but with limitations.

**Treasurer's Report** - Clarence Mitchell III gave the Treasurer's report: The Tiretown Golf Club Balance is \$3,131.20 and the Tiretown Golf Charities Budget is \$44,691.71.

Francine Blake moved that the Treasurer Report be accepted. Terry Felton seconded the motion.

The motion was passed by unanimous consent.

Mr. President said Tiretown is also part of a PGA Tour pool where the club could possibly win money if their golfers - Max Homa and Justin Thomas, are selected in the top 5.

Mr. President said Tiretown will have its first Ohio Cup Meeting in November.

Tournament and golf activities - Clarence Mitchell Jr. said the club was successful in their selling of hole signs. The new rule to reimburse anyone the amount a member paid over \$50 was a big hit. And the 50/50 raffles sold at the weekly golf events are also successful because it adds money to the golf club budget. Willie McCall asked if promotional items came out of the club budget. The answer was yes.

**The Fund Development Committee** - New flyers will be made with more options. Larry Thomas put the flyers on the website so that people can click on and pay through PayPal. Some committee members said Eventbrite added too much of a surcharge, others asked if people will be able to pay by check, others said young people don't mind using Eventbrite because it's easier to use a credit card. People will be able to use all three ways of payment. Checks can be collected by members or mailed to the PO BOX.

**Membership Committee** - Terry Felton told members it was a good year for membership, not many dropouts. He said the goal should be 200 golfers in 2024. His personal goal is to get 10-15 new members. The club already has 200 members if you include the youth members.

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Mr. President said Tiretown still remains the largest Black Golf Club in the nation according to the magazine Golf Digest and the Golf Channel.

**Rules Committee** – (Chair Art Green not present) Terry Felton said in the last two months he hasn't seen anyone hold up the teams on the golf course. After you make your shot, put your club in the bag and move on. It should only take 2 minutes to make a shot. It doesn't take that long to make a bad or good shot. He said the rule of thumb should be - Don't worry about the group behind you. Keep up with the group in front of you.

Debra Turner asked about uniform course rules.

**Tiretown Junior Golf Club** - Cynthia Blake said they ordered shirts for the junior golfers. A reminder that the Junior Golf Tournament at Mud Run is on Sept. 16.

A couple of junior golfers will play but many will not, because if they are on a high school golf team playing in tournaments they can't play competitive golf outside of school according to the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) rules.

Mr. President said at the Back to School Carnival at Buchtel High School 9 new students signed up to join the junior golf club. There are currently 50 kids on the roster.

**Volunteer Committee** - Chair Dwayne Jackson said there is not a lot going on right now. He's still recruiting volunteer committee members and when events come up will call on those volunteers. He said Tiretown had about 50 volunteers for the Senior Players Tournament. Mr. President said there are a couple of events lined up for the youth including the Cavs, Guardians and Indy 500 but it shouldn't just be a road trip for the kids, they should have to volunteer opportunities too.

**Drawings** - attendance raffle winner - Elmore Banton. No overall attendance winner. The pot is now \$140 for the October 21, 2023 meeting.

50/50 Raffle winner - Otis Beecher

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm by unanimous consent.