



## MTF Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

March 22, 2023

In Person/Zoom Meeting

9:00am-12:00pm

Hancock Center

Proposed Minutes

- I. Meeting Called to Order- by Curt Boak at 9:03AM.
- II. Roll Call
  - a. Present- Curt Boak, Dan Mausolf, Brad Lazroff, Eric Davey, Craig Moore, Jeff Holmes, Christian Koval, Mitchell Hooten, Adam Palmatier, Dan Lucas, Scott Rettmann, Carey Mitchelson
  - b. Absent-
- III. Consent of Agenda (Motion/Second)
  - a. Motion made by Adam Palmatier to approve agenda.
  - b. Motion seconded by Jeff Holmes and carried.
- IV. Approval of past board meeting minutes (Motion/Second)
  - a. December 7, 2023
    - i. Motion made by Brad Lazroff to approve Dec. 7, 2023 minutes.
    - ii. Motion seconded by Dan Mausolf and carried.
  - b. January 10, 2023
    - i. Motion made by Brad Lazroff to approve Jan. 10, 2023 minutes.
    - ii. Motion seconded by Craig Moore and carried.
  - c. February 23, 2023
    - i. Motion made by Brad Lazroff to approve Feb. 23, 2023 minutes.
    - ii. Motion seconded by Craig Moore and carried.
- V. Treasurer's Report: (Brad Lazroff) (Motion/Second)
  - a. Fundraising Events Net Income (3-year comparison) presented.
    - i. Conference finances are being finalized.
  - b. Fiscal year comparison (Oct. 1, 2022-Sept. 30, 2023) presented.
  - c. Account Values (as of Feb. 9, 2023) presented.
  - d. Brad Lazroff requested a motion to approve Treasurer's Report.
    - i. Motion made by Craig Moore to approve treasurer's report.
    - ii. Motion seconded by Dan Mausolf and carried.
  - e. Fiscal Year 22-23 Proposed Budget presented.
    - i. Key Income and Expenses presented.
    - ii. Net income is negative due to a year with a lack of revenue, but finances have shown progress.
    - iii. Three research grant payments to the Turf Team this fiscal year contributed to the negative net income.
  - f. Brad Lazroff requested a motion to approve Proposed Budget.
    - i. Motion made by Dan Mausolf to approve Proposed Budget.
    - ii. Motion seconded by Craig Moore.
    - iii. No discussion. All in favor.

VI. Executive Reports

a. President's Report: (Curt Boak)

- i. Prior to conference, Jesse Sholl communicated to Brad Lazroff that the Founder's Request to fund mower was no longer needed. MSU has funded the mower requested by the Hancock Center.
- ii. Carey Mitchelson stated that Kevin Frank has requested a dollar amount which is available within the Founder's Fund.
- iii. Discussion held regarding Kevin's request for an established dollar amount. Brad Lazroff agrees a number should be established. Adam Palmatier suggested to continue hearing all requests since they are rarely submitted. Carey Mitchelson will relay the message to Kevin Frank that funds are limited for the time being. No timeline or dollar amount will be established. A meeting to coordinate and reach an understanding will be held.

b. Executive Director's Report: (Carey Mitchelson)

- i. Letter to GAM clubs seeking support of the Vargas Chair presented.
- ii. 2023 Green Industry Legislative Day- March 22<sup>nd</sup>
- iii. MTESP Grant- Regarding the Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program between the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and MTF. Oct. 1, 2022 – Sept. 30, 2023.

VII. Turf Team Update: (Dr. Frank)

- a. Not present.

VIII. Standing Committee Reports

a. Nominating Committee: (Dan Lucas)

- i. Matt Gaver Replacement for Western Division is needed.
- ii. Northern Superintendent, Justin Bickel, seems moderately interested in joining. If selected, Jeff Holmes would move to the western division and Bickel would hold the At Large position.
- iii. After confirming within bylaws, notice of seeking candidates will be sent publicly.

b. By-Laws Committee: (Dan Mausolf)

- i. Deferred.

c. Awards Committee: (Dan Lucas)

- i. Deferred.

d. Long Range Planning: (Dan Mausolf)

- i. Deferred.

e. Founders Society Committee: (Brad Lazroff)

- i. Plans for rebuilding- Received a \$5k donation to Founder's from Tom Stark. Thank you letter will be sent.
- ii. Most efficient way to increase funds is to gain members within the Founder's Society.
- iii. Create campaign to educate members of the Founder's Society. Discussion held regarding a Founder's event, news notes publication, website and social media activity.
- iv. Brad Lazroff will discuss among committee members.

f. Endowment Fund Committee: (Curt Boak)

- i. Due to the graduate fund being funded well and previous discussion, the LaFontaine Golf Outing profits can be used elsewhere such as the LaFontaine Fund or Founders. Curt Boak opened the floor for discussion.
- ii. Curt Boak states the LaFontaine Fund is simpler to extract funds from. Brad Lazroff and Dan Mausolf confirm less restrictions when transferring funds. Jeff Holmes agrees.

- iii. Jeff Holmes made a motion to let LaFontaine Golf Outing Profits that were previously put into the MTF Graduate Student Fund, be deposited into the LaFontaine Endowment.
  1. Motion seconded by Brad Lazroff.
  2. Vote called by Curt Boak.
  3. All in favor with no discussion. Motion carried.
- iv. Motion made by Adam Palmatier to take the profit from the Conference Silent Auction to go towards the conference revenue, previously distributed to the Graduate Student Fund.
  1. Discussion held among board members. The current website and social media marketing verbiage needs to be updated.
  2. Motion seconded by Brad Lazroff.
  3. Voted called by Curt Boak and all in favor.
  4. Motion carried.
- v. Joe Vargas Endowment-
  1. Curt Boak feels the MTF should hold onto the second check due to the lack of progress and feedback from MSU. Brad Lazroff is in agreement.
  2. The board discussed negative feedback from other golf industry organizations. Comments were regarding the importance of a pathologist. Carey Mitchelson mentioned these views are short-sided and the endowment can benefit the Turf Program as a whole. Jeff Holmes in agreement.
  3. Meeting on March 29<sup>th</sup> of golf industry representatives and turf team to discuss the future of the turf program. How the funds will be used needs to be defined.
  4. Curt Boak will contact Vargas Committee regarding the timeline of the second check.

IX. Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

- a. Communication Committee: (Curt Boak)
  - i. News Notes Summer edition to be published June 2023.
    1. Members in Field, Vargas Endowment, FIFA Project, Tom Stark Recognition, Founders Campaign to be planned.
    2. Provide Curt Boak with any recommendations.
- b. Conference Committee: (Curt Boak)
  - i. The 2024 Founder's Reception will be replaced with an informal reception celebrating Dr. Joe Vargas. Guest fee details TBD. Request MSU to fund food for the reception.
  - ii. 2025 MTF Conference date TBD
  - iii. More speaker rooms will be reserved for the 2024 Conference to increase seating.
- c. Field Day Committee: (Dan Mausolf)
  - i. August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Board of Directors to be comped.
  - ii. Raising regular cost by \$5 for AM session, PM session will remain the same. Member: \$60/\$30, Non-Member: \$70/\$40
    1. Scott Rettmann suggested increasing the cost by more than \$5.
  - iii. Lunch provided by Gravity Smokehouse- taco/nacho bar.
  - iv. Allowing vendors in addition to sponsorships was discussed among board.
  - v. Equipment vendors have asked to display their products. This depends upon Hancock Center donors. Suggestion of vendors paying a fee to be across the street while donors display signage near Hancock Center equipment. Proposed an exclusive Founder's Tent/Founder's Member lunch.
  - vi. Dan confirms the Field Day Committee will meet to discuss cost and vendors.
- d. GAM Relationships/Liaison Committee: (Eric Davey)
  - i. GAM Annual Meeting- May 3, 2023, at Polo Fields

- e. Graduate Student Assistantship Committee: (Carey Mitchelson)
  - i. Applications are being submitted by students.
- f. Lafontaine Golf for Grads Committee: (Dan Mausolf)
  - i. Lafontaine Golf Outing: June 21, 2023
  - ii. Raising golf prices is up for discussion.
  - iii. Same format as 2022 outing but adding pizza to the meal.
  - iv. Golf fees are \$125. Corporate Sponsor fee of \$1k.
  - v. Includes Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Beverages, and Golf. Discussion was held with agreement to increase fee to \$150.
- g. Membership: (Dan Mausolf)
  - i. Dan Mausolf is sending past due member renewal emails to inform them that they have lapsed.
- h. Michigan Turfgrass Student Relations Committee: (Eric Davey)
  - i. Turf Team highest placing was 5<sup>th</sup> place at World Turf.
  - ii. New president to be selected in the Fall. Board praised current president, Connor McBride.
- i. Tee Times 4 Turf Committee: (Scott Rettmann)
  - i. Around 140 rounds are currently donated.
  - ii. Auction begins April 30, 2023.
  - iii. Deadline of May 1 to confirm donations.
  - iv. Event within Wild apricot was created to record donor list and create physical mailings for acknowledgment letters.
- j. Turfgrass Research and Educational Committee: (Craig Moore)
  - i. Dr. Emily Merewitz-Holm's five multi-year research proposals presented.
  - ii. Craig Moore will report back with Committee feedback.
- k. Joe Vargas Chair
  - i. See Endowment Fund Committee.
- X. Old Business
  - a. None
- XI. New Business
  - a. None
- XII. Adjournment
  - a. Motion made by Dan Mausolf to adjourn meeting.
  - b. Motion seconded by Jeff Holmes and carried.
  - c. The meeting adjourned at 11:12AM.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Britney VanderKodde  
Executive Secretary