



MTF Board of Directors Minutes

September 1, 2022

In Person/Zoom Meeting

Hancock Turfgrass Research Center

East Lansing, MI

Meeting Minutes

- I. **Meeting Call to Order** at 1:00PM by Curt Boak
- II. **Roll Call:** Taken by Britney VanderKodde
 - a. Present: Curt Boak, Dan Mausolf, Brad Lazroff, Scott Rettmann, Christian Koval, Matt Gaver, Craig Moore, Adam Palmatier
 - b. Absent: Jeff Holmes, Dan Lucas
- III. **Consent of Agenda:**
 - a. Motion made by Dan Mausolf to accept agenda.
 - b. Motion seconded by Scott Rettmann and carried.
- IV. **Approval of Past Board Meeting Minutes:**
 - a. February 28, 2022, BOD Meeting Minutes
 - b. Motion made by Dan Mausolf to approve minutes.
 - c. Motion seconded by Dan Mausolf and carried.
- V. **Dr. Tom Nikolai Report**
 - a. Introduced funding request for hydroponic green research project.
 - b. Project entails six greens- three alternative depth and three sub ground irrigation. Architect, Chris Wisninski provided drawings with data. Research partner is Mike Ravey.
 - c. Provided informal report to USGA requesting funding. Intends to submit proposal to Michael Hurtzen for funding.
 - d. Sept. 11th deadline for Hurtzen proposal with request of matching funds from MTF. Estimated last year's spending of \$18,000.
 - e. Plans to submit request of funding from Founder's society to reimburse his spending of \$7,000. Stated that it is fine if he doesn't get this amount back. If approved, he will put this amount towards the MTF matching funds.
 - f. First two years will focus on water savings. Will gather visual data. Algae growth on sub ground, not alternative greens. Pro and cons to both unique systems.
- VI. **Treasurer's Report:** (Brad Lazroff)
 - a. MTF Account Values as of Aug. 30, 2022, presented.
 - i. Founders account, LaFontaine account, cash/checking account do not represent exact funds due to Joe Vargas Endowed Chair Pledge.
 - ii. Rieke values provided quarterly by MSU.
 - b. 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget Review/Approve
 - i. October 1, 2021- September 30, 2022
 - ii. Income and Expenses presented
 - c. Fundraising Events Net Income (2019-2022) presented.
 - i. Field Day is negative value- waiting to process income from event.
 - d. Audit Review

- i. Filed audit and approved status.
 - ii. Beginning in 2021 fiscal year, complete Audit, Compilation, Review every three years.
- e. Approval of Treasure Report
 - i. Motion made by Scott Rettmann to approve Treasure's Report.
 - ii. Motion seconded by Dan Mausolf and carried.

VII. Executive Reports:

a. President's Report: (Curt Boak)

- i. Requested feedback on 2022 schedule of google doc process.
 - 1. Google sheet created for MTF photos.
 - 2. Great source of information and communication.
 - 3. In Person meeting within 1-2 months for conference preparation.

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

- i. MTF Alliance Update
 - 1. MGCA- Certification of apprentice program with US Dept. of Labor presented. MTF presented template information.
- ii. Alliance of Michigan's Green Industry Professionals
 - 1. Green Industry Legislative Day- Sept. 14, 2022.
- iii. MSU
 - 1. MI Legislation approves \$53 million for green houses and dairy facilities.
 - 2. MTF submitted endorsement's letter.
- iv. USGA
 - 1. Provided four grants to the MSU turf team.
- v. GAM
 - 1. Annual meeting- turf team attendance.
 - 2. Dr. Joe Vargas was congratulation
 - 3. Speakers [Dr. Horgan, Dr. Smitley, Kevin Frank
- vi. Club Organizations donations (2021-2022) presented.
- vii. Joe Vargas Chair
 - 1. Vargas pledge of \$500,000 MSU Gift Receipt presented.
 - 2. Thank You note from Kelly Millenbah presented.
 - 3. Thank You note from MSU president presented.
 - 4. Golfdom Magazine by Karl article presented.
 - 5. Met with MSU Liaison, Brittany Lawrence.
- viii. MSU Liaison- Brittany Lawrence
 - 1. Stated long term donation amount of 5.5 million from MTF to MSU. Long term support with outstanding impact.
 - 2. Focused on engaging individuals and companies to match MTF pledge.
 - 3. Declared open communication between MTF board members of donor suggestions between board members.
 - 4. Discussed replicating funding via Alumni Champions and packaging industry.
 - 5. Will focus on turf grass clients. Due to donor confidentiality, names cannot be shared at this time.

VIII. Turf Team Update: (Kevin Frank)

- a. GCSAA- requested for matching funds. Received letter to ensure matching funds that are deposited within MSU account. MSU wants funds to go within grant account. MTF must make notice that funds granted to professors are in addition to their research

fund. MSU facility need to determine if matching funds are in addition to their research fund.

- b. Overhead percentage of research university's explained. Grant research dollars, 50% to university.
- c. Number of students increased by 10,000 within freshman class. 40 students total within two and four year program.
- d. Meeting 7.31.22- portable greenhouse part of work cup project. Will be heated with lights to enhance world cup project. Break ground by fall 2022.
- e. Turf School will be continued this year at the Kellogg center. December 12-15th.

IX. Standing Committee Reports:

- a. Nominating Committee: (Carey Mitchelson)
 - i. Expiration dates of directors presented.
 - ii. Matt Gaver, Brad Lazroff, Dan Mausolf, Adam Palmatier
 - iii. Vacancies Article VI Section 2 presented.
 - iv. Mitch Hooten nominee to fill vacancy of Paul Kuhna, promoted for Golf and Sports Turf Management. Board members had no candidates. Michigan Sports
 1. Vote to approve nominee, Mitch Hooten, as MTF director within Golf and Sports Turf Management.
 2. Board all in favor.
- b. By-Laws Committee: (Dan Mausolf)
 - i. Deferred
- c. Awards Committee: (Carey Mitchelson)
 - i. Meritorious Service Award- Recipients presented.
 - ii. Shanty Creek Student Scholarship specifics presented.
 1. Four years for \$25k.
 2. Selection and eligibility criteria need to be established.
 3. Fund needs to be transferred to MTF accounts prior to awarding student.
 4. **ACTION ITEM:** establish parameters before announcement of MTF scholarships on Thursday, Sept. 15th at 3:00PM.
- d. Long Range Planning: (Dan Mausolf)
 - i. Deferred
- e. Founders Society Committee: (Brad Lazroff)
 - i. Formalize for procedure of requesting Founder's fund.
 - ii. Founders Society Standing Committee Guidelines presented.
 - iii. Funding Request outline presented.
 1. Turf Team discussion is recommended. Request then relayed to Kevin Frank before presenting to Founders Society Chairman, Brad Lazroff.
 2. **ACTION ITEM:** share document via email to board members before decision is made to adopt procedure.

X. Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

- a. Communication Committee: (Curt Boak)
 - i. Field Day Facebook: Sponsored ad, spent \$200. Reached 27,207 people, some reached more than once. 402 people clicked on link. Brought interest from local news channel.
 - ii. Questioned detailed analytics in relation to registrants and ad engagement.
 - iii. May possibly entertain sponsored ad for conference in January.
 - iv. TGIF Agreement to digitalize Newsnotes presented.
- b. Conference Committee: (Curt Boak)
 - i. 2023 Pricing details presented. Will continue Member/Non-Member registration types. Speaker dinner was increased.
 - ii. Soaring Eagle- January 10th - 12th

- iii. Discussion on changing venue tabled.
- iv. Proposed distinguishing booth vendor rates in relation to their membership status.
- v. Vendor drinks included at halftime show discussed.
- vi. Silent Auction- volunteer needed.
- c. Field Day Committee: (Dan Mausolf)
 - i. Member - Non-Member pre registration. Increased rate for onsite registration. No negative feedback was received.
 - ii. 122 registered
 - iii. Currently not interest in mailing post cards.
 - iv. **ACTION ITEM:** Send Andy Flynn thank you note for athletic field tour
- d. GAM Relationships/Liaison Committee: (Eric Davey)
 - i. GAM annual meeting- MTF attendees acknowledged.
- e. Graduate Student Assistantship Committee: (Carey Mitchelson)
 - i. MSU Turf Team
 - ii. Paul Rieke Turfgrass Endowed Graduate Assistantship Guidelines presented.
 - 1. Turf Team decision to not be elected in 2022.
- f. Lafontaine Golf for Grads Committee: (Dan Mausolf)
 - i. Estimate of \$7-\$10k net income.
 - ii. Past Dues on teams and sponsors remain.
- g. Membership: (Dan Mausolf)
 - i. Past due/ lapsed members will receive an email prior to being archived.
 - ii. Honorary members are defined.
- h. Michigan Turfgrass Student Relations Committee: (Eric Davey)
 - i. Deferred
- i. Tee Times 4 Turf Committee: (Scott Rettmann)
 - i. Noted improvements. Meeting in October to prepare for conference. Item to be included with name badge.
 - ii. Club certificates must be received in hand before uploading rounds to Galabid.
 - iii. Courses that donate annually- confirm approval before next season or remove this column. Condense spreadsheet by eliminating columns.
 - iv. Net income of \$46,125.00.
- j. Turfgrass Research and Educational Committee: (Craig Moore)
 - i. World Cup and Hydroponic green research project.
 - ii. Email regarding fall funding will be delivered soon.

XI. Old Business

- a. No old business.

XII. New Business

- a. No new business.

XIII. Adjourn

- a. Motion made to adjourn meeting by Dan Mausolf
- b. Motion seconded by Scott Rettmann.
- c. Meeting adjourned at 3:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Britney VanderKodde
MTF Executive Secretary