Michigan Golf Course Superintendents Association  
13 December 2006 meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:30am by President Jon Maddern.

Those in attendance were: President Jon Maddern, Vice President Tom Mason, Dan Bissonette, Kirk Carls, Scott Pulaski, Greg Pattinson, Rick Hakken, David Pawluk, Ron Dahlin, Michael Morris, and Tim Dorner with guests Steven Randall and Greg Lyman from the GCSAA. Those members not present were Mike Mulky (informed the president that he was ill) and Doug Boyle (who had not contacted the president).

The agenda, presented by President Maddern & Steve Randall, was adopted.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved with the following revisions to the attendance paragraph: Member Doug Boyle was not present.

There was a discussion initiated by Mr. Morris concerning the lack of access to information generated by the focus group prior to the formation of this board in 2006. It was felt that information generated in the past may have relevance to current discussions and could be important in the formulation of ideas and policy. A decision was made by the president to have Mr.’s Morris, Carls and Dahlin compile a binder(s) of information (including historical information) for each board member. The president asked that these 3 seek out all prior communications (paper and electronic) and include them in these binders which are to be presented to the board members at their scheduled meeting on the 7th of January 2007.

A motion was made by Mr. Carls to “Use the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association web-site for access to the minutes and other information generated by this board.” This was seconded and passed unanimously by a voice vote. Mr. Bissonette has been charged by the president to accomplish this task.

Mr. Randall reported on the findings of his conversation with Mr. Church (GCSAA Legal Council) concerning the possibility of using the current 503c held by the Detroit Chapter:
1) We are on the correct path to use an existing 503c 3 or 6 for the MiGCSA as this will consume less time and resources than obtaining a new one.
2) It is recommended that we discuss this proposed action with an accountant to address potential tax implications and dissolution issues.
3) Mr. Church has offered to help in the structure of the bylaws and offered his services in answering any questions on the process.

VP Mason asked if it was time to get Mr. Church and the accountant that works with the Detroit Chapter together. It was agreed that until the bylaws are developed and adopted this meeting would be premature. Mr. Dorner agreed to contact their current accountant to discuss these issues and others that the accountant may feel important at this point in the process.

Mr. Dahlin reported that a search of available web domain names showed that MGCSA (.com, .net & .org) is no longer available and that MiGCSA (.com, .net & .org) was available. WMGCSA paid to register these domain names for one year solely for use by MiGCSA. It was
noted by Mr. Bissonette that this organization should use MiGCSA.org” and also that the domain name GLGCSA.org is available for registration. The board decided that we should also register this domain name for possible future use. Mr. Dahlin will try to do this (funding for this is currently unknown).

The next item on the agenda addressed was the formulation of the goals for the organization. A question was raised by Mr. Carls on the clear definition of Mission, Vision, Goals and Objectives. It was agreed, after introduction from Mr. Lyman and then further discussion, that for clarification the following definitions would be used:

- The mission statement was the purpose of the organization.
- The vision statement is the preferred future of the organization and its members.
- The goals are the specific objectives and should be tactical and used as way points.
- The objectives are to be specific, measurable and will be defined at the committee level but approved at the board level.

Goals were written, revised and adopted after a motion was made by VP Mason to “Adopt the MiGCSA goals” and a second was offered. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

VP Mason made a motion “That the Mission, Vision and Goals be adopted as written” after a second and voice vote the motion was passed without opposition.

The Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Goals of the MiGCSA are as follows:

**Mission Statement**
To provide leadership for Golf Course Superintendents and other golf industry partners on the economic, environmental and recreational vitality of golf in Michigan.

**Vision Statement**
Michigan Golf course Superintendents Association members will be consistently recognized as:
- actively advancing the profession
- key to the enjoyment of the game
- professionals working to enhance environmental stewardship locally, regionally and nationally
- crucial to the economic vitality of the facility
- innovators in communication, education and business management
- clear authorities on issues related to golf course management
- leaders among golf industry partners
- professionals belonging to an inclusive organization that embraces a diversity of ideas and people
- actively participating in the betterment of their communities

**Goals**
A. Establish a functioning statewide organization of Golf Course Superintendents in Michigan.
B. To provide an efficient and effective delivery of member services.
C. To maximize the strengths of our members throughout the state.
D. Provide leadership and representation to the Golf Course industry on issues involving superintendents and their facilities.
Discussion turned to the next agenda item, ‘The Business Plan’. Mr. Randall outlined that this will be a time intensive undertaking and is not appropriate to start today. The time remaining today should be spent on an overview of current financing options. The board was asked to review the outlines “Strategic Plan Template for MiGCSA & Proposed Business Plan Template” before the next scheduled meeting.

Using a sample 2006 budget formulated by the focus group:

1) Potential member numbers we discussed. The number of members (730) seemed high and President Maddern asked that board members report back to him, via e-mail, on membership numbers at the 4 current associations.

2) Sponsorship packages were looked at with respect to what was offered for each level of service (see attachment A to the minutes). Not knowing what was being spent currently it was determined to be unrealistic at this time to set this price for each level. President Maddern asked that information be gathered by the 4 current associations on monies accepted from vendors in 2006. This information is requested via e-mail prior to the next scheduled meeting.

The next meeting date and location was decided. The MiGCSA Board will meet on the 7th of January 2007 prior to the GLTE conference. This will be a MiGCSA board member only meeting from 3 to 5 pm with board members of the 4 current associations invited to join from 5 to 6 pm when an overview of current progress and future plans will be presented.

The next two subsequent meeting dates were set as the 16th & 17th of January and the 7th & 8th of February 2007. The first will be a 2 day meeting whose focus will be the Strategic Plan & the Business Plan for the MiGCSA and the second meeting (if needed) will be to finalize these items. Meeting location will be set by President Maddern prior to the next scheduled meeting.

Action items for Mr. Randall were set and are:

a) Mr. Church’s reciprocity status in Michigan.

b) How does the Carolina’s organization funnel support back to unaffiliated local organizations?

c) What is the Carolina’s view on handling equity amongst unaffiliated local organizations?

d) Gather an overview from Terry Harris on some examples of vendor sponsorships.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Dahlin, CGCS