



Message from the Board

January 2021

Dear West Shore Members,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a safe and wonderful holiday season. 2020 is behind us, finally, and the hope is that in 2021 we can get back to a normal life.

Towards the end of 2020, Jim Houston informed the Board of Directors his intention to retire at the end of January 2021. Jim has been an employee of West Shore for almost 30 years and has done an outstanding job keeping OUR golf course in tip top shape over those years. We wish Jim the best with the new phase of his life and hope to see him often on the golf course.

With the news of Jim's retirement, your Board went quickly to work to find his replacement. The Board formed a search committee in November 2020 which put together a Golf Course Superintendent job description and posted the job opening on the US Golf Course Superintendent Golf Association's web site. From the many resumes that we received; four candidates stood out. All four candidates graduated from Michigan State's Turf Management program and are employed at four of the top golf courses in the Detroit Metro area. The committee also reached out to the head professor of that program to get his opinion of the candidates' qualifications. The committee put together a set of questions that each candidate had to complete prior to an interview with members of the committee. The interview process started with Joe Wilson and "EK" Kammeraad taking each candidate on a tour of the golf course, then a stop at the maintenance area to talk to Jim and look at our equipment, then about a 1-hour interview with the committee. Long story short, one candidate stood out head and shoulders over the other three. The committee recommended to the Board of Directors to make an offer, which the Board unanimously approved. I am pleased to announce that West Shore has hired Evan Herman as our new Golf Course Superintendent. Evan started his employment with West Shore on Monday January 18, 2021. Evan basically grew up here at West Shore as his parents, Brian, and Lynn Herman, were long time members here. Please welcome Evan as our new member of the West Shore family.

Over the last two years or so, Joe Wilson has been working feverishly on new membership packages. From the Young Professional, Limited, and Full Memberships, West Shore now has over 300 members thanks to Joe.

Even with all the COVID-19 restrictions on our bar and restaurant, West Shore will have a balanced budget at the end of the fiscal year, March 2021, in large part due to our increased membership. A big thank you once again to Joe Wilson.

Looking into the future, the land sale is currently in the hands of the developer and the planning commission of the township. As we get updates, the Board will keep the membership informed of the status of the sale. The Board is also looking into the possibility of refinancing our mortgage, with the interest rates being as low as they are. (The bank has already given us a proposal).

Well, I wanted to keep this short, but this is the first message from the Board, and we plan on doing this once per month from the various Board members. We also encourage any member that wants to share a story to do so by sending it to the Board and we can post it on our web site.

We are looking to plan for a normal tournament year in 2021, the schedule will be coming out before April 1st. Hope everyone stays safe and healthy this winter season.

Thanks,
Tom Tanciar
President

