



Golf Advisory Board Minutes

July 10th, at 4:30 PM

1. Call to Order:

- Pat Gilliam called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM

2. Roll Call:

- Board Members Present: Pat Gilliam, Kim Spencer, Patti Brug, Patrick Mcmillen, Mike Sage, and Jeff Collins
- Board Members Absent: Melissa Jensen
- City Employees Present: Alexa Schubin (CPR-Forestry Admin III) and Chris Colling (Golf Manager)
- Other Attendees: No residents or other guests attended the meeting

3. Approval of Minutes:

- Meeting Minutes from May 8th, 2025, were presented to the board, Pat noted a spelling error of "Gold" instead of "Golf" in the title. With the edit the minutes were motioned to be approved by Patrick and Patti seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

4. Approval of the agenda:

- Pat made a motion to approve the agenda; Patti seconded the motion. The motion to approve the agenda passed 6-0.

5. Citizen Input:

- No citizens were present to provide input.

6. Old Business:

- Alexa spoke about the details of the Triennial Report review, which is to take place on October 28th, 2025, with City Council. This review will require a spokesperson to represent the board to speak to recent accomplishments, current goals and any planned activities. Pat stated that he could attend along with Chris, Patti and Mike.
 - Mike had asked about how the review would go, and Chris had provided that they would review what had been submitted and asses the need for the board.
- *Staff Reports:* Golf Operations Update (Chris)
 - Chris reported that golf rounds from January 1 to June 30 were 18,952 at Highland Hills and 20,875 at Boomerang, with rounds and revenues both up

compared to the previous year. As of the day before the meeting, revenues were tracking \$234,289 ahead of 2024, with 18-hole green fees alone contributing \$104,000 more year over year. Punch card sales have nearly doubled, with \$63,000 in sales which is \$62,000 ahead of the same time in 2024. This helps to offset a \$60,000 drop in overall membership sales. Notably, senior pass sales are up by \$32,000. Chris credited previous board efforts for the successful implementation of pricing and structural changes.

- Jeff noted this aligns with trends at other courses, and Mike commented there's been minimal public pushback on changes. Pat mentioned concerns from players about limited access on Fridays.
- Chris highlighted the District 6 agreement, allowing high school invitationals to start at 8 a.m. and leagues at 11 a.m., noting that many other courses decline to host school tournaments due to revenue losses. However, junior golf remains a priority, and they will continue to support these events.
 - Pat agreed it's valuable community service. Jeff added that better communication from schools, such as avoiding last-minute cancellations, would improve operations. Chris emphasized holding schools accountable to maintain the privilege.
- Pat asked how potential end-of-year surplus funds (\$200,000–\$300,000) might be used.
 - Chris explained that while revenues are outpacing expenditures by roughly \$300,000, those funds are still needed to meet operational goals, including maintaining a \$1 million reserve. Planned projects include new flooring for the Highland clubhouse, pouring a large concrete slab for cart staging, and possibly adding GPS systems to golf carts (estimated at \$55,000–\$60,000 per year).
 - Chris noted that GPS could improve pace-of-play monitoring and allow carts to be shut down when driven into restricted areas.
 - Pat mentioned liability concerns with carts at Boomerang, while Mike asked about the GPS subscription model—Chris confirmed it would apply at both courses. Geofencing was also discussed as a useful feature to address operational challenges.
- Chris mentioned that while bonding for major projects like the Highland's Clubhouse is on the distant horizon, overall golf operations are strong. With a projected 5% citywide budget cut in 2026, golf remains one of the few growing services, especially with Northern Colorado's ongoing population growth.
 - Jeff raised the question of a third golf course, referring to future projections of 250,000 residents in Greeley.
 - Chris responded that a new course isn't currently being planned due to concerns about taking on debt.
 - Pat suggested exploring a smaller, 9-hole course to relieve pressure on the 18-hole layouts and offer broader community access.

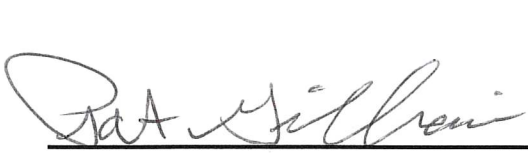
- Chris shared that build-to-rent housing near holes 10–12 at Boomerang is progressing, and the largest barrier to a third course would be land acquisition. Cascadia was mentioned as a possible future site, with a 25-year window for growth.
- Chris invited everyone to attend the Boomerang Short Course ribbon-cutting on Thursday, August 14 at 3 p.m. He reaffirmed the commitment to offering affordable public golf.
- Regarding maintenance, Chris explained that a hydroseeding project at Boomerang was washed away, requiring a switch to sod. The area has since been mowed to fairway height, with sand top-dressing and fertilization planned next week.
 - Pat complimented the condition of the Boomerang greens, and Chris agreed both courses are in the best shape they've ever been.
 - At Highland Hills, recent water pressure issues caused by a cooling system malfunction in the irrigation pumps led to some dry spots, but Chris expects the turf to recover.

7. New Business:

- Topic: Volunteers During Prime Time & Speed of Play Signage.
 - Patrick initiated the discussion on volunteer support and signage for pace of play as they are pieces of feedback/concerns that he hears from golfers frequently. He raised the question of implementing signage, PA systems or active rangers to encourage better pace of play. This could improve the overall experience and raising awareness could help reduce bottlenecks, especially on Sundays.
 - Chris responded that while signage is certainly worth exploring, the current budget is already fully allocated for the year, though it could be revisited in 2026.
 - Chris also noted that volunteers are essential, especially on high-traffic days like Friday through Sunday, with approximately 15–20 volunteers supporting each course, often acting as starters due to limited staffing and a lack of budget for paid positions.
 - Jeff pointed out that it can be difficult for volunteers to address pace issues directly with players, and Mike added that some rangers have faced confrontational behavior in these situations.
 - Chris emphasized that this is one reason volunteers are selectively placed as some are better suited to handle tense interactions.
 - Mike inquired about signage that supports volunteers, to which Chris mentioned that there is a network for that presently.

8. Scheduling of Meetings:

- The next Golf Advisory Board meeting will be on Thursday September 11th, 2025, at 4:30 PM, located at the Family FunPlex.
9. Adjournment: Kim motioned to adjourn the meeting, Pat seconded, and the motion passed 6-0. The meeting concluded at 5:29 PM.



Pat Gilliam – Chair



Chris Colling – Golf Manager