



Golf Division  
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MINUTES

GOLF COURSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*April 19, 2023*

*Aurora Municipal Center, Aspen Room*

MEMBERS PRESENT: Laurie Steenrod, Chairperson; Jesse Stine, Vice-Chairperson; , Elizabeth Hamilton, Shannon Crouthers, Pete Schlickman, John Lichtner, Perry Jowsey, Brendan Wild, Dorothy Shadrick, Wes Severin, Ty Tymkovich, Bryan Lukasezck, Caroline Kim

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF ATTENDING: Dan Wickman, Manager of Golf; Karin Rivale, Marketing Specialist; Suzie Jaquith, Administrative Supervisor

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Laurie Steenrod, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:15 P.M.
- II. CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS – Laurie Steenrod remarked she was able to visit all five Aurora golf courses recently. She sat on the patio at Aurora Hills one Saturday morning and observed the activities of the course operations which she reported flowed smoothly. She encouraged all members to visit the courses regularly, even if just to practice on the putting green, have a cup of coffee in the restaurants, visit the pro shops, etc. Laurie notated the portion of the Bylaws which mention the voice of the public and remarked that has always been what she has operated under while serving on the committee. She was pleased to learn Kevin Kallas, Head Superintendent of Saddle Rock, represented golf agriculture during the Governor Polis signing of a proclamation at the state capital declaring April 12<sup>th</sup>, Colorado Golf Day.
- III. PUBLIC INVITED TO SPEAK – None.
- IV. COMMITTEE REMARKS -
  - Jesse Stine remarked he has played at Springhill, Saddle Rock and Murphy Creek. He agreed with the decision to temporarily close Murphy Creek to allow greens to recover from winter damage. He expected the greens to be in rough condition coming out of winter, however, was surprised the fairways were in rougher shape than normal. He commented Saddle Rock fared much better and Aurora Hills was in decent shape during the Men’s Club event.
  - Shannon Crouthers commented that her husband had recently played Aurora Hills and noted the restrooms were closed. She recommended pro shop staff alert golfers of restroom closures at check-in. She suggested a combination keypad be installed on the restroom doors. Staff will research possibilities. She asked if there were plans for beverage carts to start making rounds at the courses. Staff responded yes; the beverage cart service is operated by the restaurant concessionaires.

- John Lichtner remarked he has played with the Men's Club at Springhill and thought the course was in great shape. He reported Meadow Hills Men's Club is now 300 members strong.
- Wes Severin remarked he has played several times at Murphy Creek and echoed Jesse's comments on course conditions. The greens are in poor condition. He knew the greens had not been covered over winter but thought it may have been beneficial from receiving moisture from the snow. Fairways are in rough shape in many areas. He is hoping staff will focus on reseeding the large hot spot areas.
- Dorothy Shadrick remarked she has played all courses except Saddle Rock and reiterated other's comments on Murphy Creek course conditions. She noted all courses have suffered significant winter damage, more so than in previous years. She reported yardage stakes at Aurora Hills have brown on tan lettering making it difficult to see at any distance. Staff to follow up.
- Elizabeth Hamilton remarked Meadow Hills is greening up nicely. She reported 50 members showed up for the Ladies 9-Hole League Kickoff Breakfast. There are currently 70 members. She is the Chair of the Aurora Historic Preservation Commission and reported there is an effort by the commission to save the rain shelter at the former Fitzsimons golf course site. Springhill has been identified as the re-location site with an area picked out near the practice area. She shared photos of the shelter and the proposed location with members. She is currently seeking cost estimates for the proposed project.
- Perry Jowsey announced this is his last meeting and remarked it was a pleasure to serve on the committee.
- Pete Schlickman remarked he played at Springhill and thought the course was in decent shape for the most part. Greens are struggling but that is to be expected this time of year. He played at Aurora Hills and was surprised to find a lot of winter kill.
- New member, Bryan Lukaszczek, remarked he lives in southeast Aurora and is looking forward to serving on the committee. He recently played Murphy Creek and Saddle Rock. He asked why none of the Aurora courses have broken tee boxes. Laurie Steenrod speculated it may be partly due to the impact on maintenance. Staff to follow up.
- New member, Ty Tymkovich, remarked he hopes to see youth golf progress in Aurora to become a leader in offering youth golf opportunities. He is happy to be on the committee and looks forward to serving.
- New member, Caroline Kim, remarked she started in golf by enrolling her children in youth golf programs and is very pleased with the number of courses offered throughout Aurora. She looks forward to serving on the committee.

#### V. STAFF UPDATES –

- The new Manager of Golf, Dan Wickman, was introduced and gave a summary of his golf background. Dan has been in the golf industry for almost 40 years. He has spent most of his career in Arizona. Dan feels each of the Aurora courses offer something for everyone and is excited to be a part of the Aurora Golf Division.
- Karin Rivale, Marketing Specialist, gave an update on marketing activities. Dan Daru, reporter with Fox 31 News, will be visiting Meadow Hills Golf Course on May 1<sup>st</sup> to report on the new Phat scooters that are available for golfers to rent as an alternative to carts. The agreement has been renewed with radio station 104.3 The Fan to have Aurora Golf featured on the morning show hosted by radio personality, Zach Bye. Zach is new to the game of golf and plays the different Aurora courses and then discusses his experiences on the radio show. New this year, the morning radio show will broadcast live at each of the golf courses which will involve a contest for a free bucket of balls. There's a possibility Zach Bye will play 9 -holes after each live remote broadcast with a golf staff and two contest winners. The 104.3 The Fan morning show and mid-day show radio personalities may also play a tournament at Saddle Rock.
- Suzie Jaquith, Administration Supervisor, welcomed new members to the committee and reported she will be sending out an updated contact list to the committee. She reported there was one applicant for the Paul McMullen Scholarship program this year and the interview was conducted on April 12<sup>th</sup> by the interview sub-committee.

- VI. FINANCIAL REVIEW – Dan Wickman, Manager of Golf, gave a Rounds/Financial Report update. Dan reported he had a chance to review financial statements and was pleased to find the golf fund is doing well so far this year. He remarked Aurora Golf has been fortunate to see an increase in play over the last few years. Replacement of some aging maintenance equipment will be a top priority this year.

VII. DISCUSSION -

- Staff presented Chairperson, Laurie Steenrod, who is term limited, with an appreciation award and thanked her for 25 years of volunteer service to the Aurora Golf Course Advisory Committee and the many golf programs and events she has dedicated her time to, such as the Mother Daughter golf events and the Drive, Chip and Putt.
- The election for new Chairperson and Vice Chairperson was conducted. Votes were counted with Jesse Stine receiving the majority of votes for Chairperson and Dorothy Shadrick receiving the majority votes for Vice Chairperson.
- Call For Motion - A motion was made by Laurie Steenrod to elect Jesse Stine as Chairperson and to elect Dorothy Shadrick as Vice Chairperson. John Lichtner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Members discussed revising Chairperson and Vice Chairperson election procedures outlined in the committee Bylaws. The two proposed options discussed were to revise procedures to have separate elections for Chairperson position and Vice-Chair position or keep the current procedures. The current procedures are one election for both positions with a candidate with majority of votes being elected as Chairperson and runner-up being elected as Vice Chairperson. Staff to send out both versions of proposed options for the committee members to review and add to the next meeting Agenda as a discussion item.
- Pete Schlickman, John Lichtner and Shannon Crouthers of the Paul McMullen Scholarship Interview Subcommittee gave an update on the interview. One candidate, Nathanael Urban, interviewed on April 12<sup>th</sup> was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship award. Nathanael is a senior at Rangeview High School who has worked for the last three summers at Murphy Creek Golf Course. He plans to attend the Colorado School of Mines.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS –

- Laurie Steenrod asked for members of the committee to consider volunteering for the upcoming Drive, Pitch and Putt event held at Murphy Creek Golf Course.

IX. GENERAL DISCUSSION – None.

X. ADJOURNMENT -

- John Lichtner moved for adjournment and Elizabeth Hamilton seconded the motion.

Minutes approved by: *Laurie Steenrod* May 8, 2023  
[laurie Steenrod \(May 8, 2023 08:40 MDT\)](#)  
 Laurie Steenrod, Chairperson

Minutes prepared by: *Suzie Jaquith*  
 Suzie Jaquith, Administrative Supervisor

# 4-19-23 MINUTES\_sj

Final Audit Report

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