



CITY OF HELENA
Bill Roberts Golf Course Advisory Board
Time Stamped Summary: August 19, 2025 - 12:00 PM
City County Building 316 N Park Ave Room 426
Zoom Recording Link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/cimmwA66WkVA9UoIZ1aqybiP8TXX1-a4I2KNVGIC17i-E4HvALcL2877Uziu2Vj4.e6u04FrgjA38_0aQ

(00:00:01) Call to Order / Roll Call

Roll Call was taken, and the following members were present:

Board Members:

Jack Gregg

Susan Court

Rob Logsdon

Jim Tucker

Vacant Positions – 2

Attendance via Zoom:

Chris Smith

Additional guests and members of the public present:

Kathy McDonald-representing Women's League

Doug Olson-representing Men's League

Bob Schlack

City Staff:

Parks Director Doug Smith

Golf Course Operations Manager Tod Fitterer

Golf Course Superintendent Steve Link

Golf Course Assistant Superintendent Bryce Wideen – Excused absence

Parks Administrative Assistant Heather Kahler

(00:00:50) Public Comment (Items pertaining to this agenda)

No public comment.

(00:01:01) Minutes –

A. July 15, 2025

Time stamped summary link: No Zoom Connection for this meeting. Hand-written minutes only.

Rob made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 15, 2025 meeting, Jack seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

New Business

(00:02:49)

- A. Public Comment – A letter from Adam Clinch was read at the last monthly meeting. Doug Smith will follow-up with Adam this winter after fees have been set.

Unfinished Business

- A. (00:04:26) Water Stations. Jim reported that he drafted a Sponsorship Proposal e-mail which he then sent to a couple dozen organizations with marketing budgets in the Helena area. Approximately 15 are interested in funding the water stations. The main question he received from the organizations is 'why can't this be done now?' Jim would like to get a couple larger sponsors in order to plan for graphic design development, etc. Doug reported that approval is needed by the city before funding can actually be accepted; then the project could proceed with city procedures allowing for installation of water lines, stations, and infrastructure. Steve suggested that a timeline for the water stations install could occur this winter with an unveil in the spring.
- B. (00:21:20) Public Comment - none

Reports

- A. Parks Director
(00:21:23) Director Doug Smith reported that the solar field is not operational due to a damaged transformer that occurred during transit. The new transformer is scheduled to arrive in 27 weeks.
- B. Golf Course Superintendent
(00:22:16) Golf Course Superintendent Steve Link reported on items related to golf course maintenance. Greens aerification is scheduled for September 8-9. A rental compressor has been reserved for blowing out the irrigation system the week of October 13. Many golfers have complimented the condition of the greens this year. Steve further explained the lower cut and treatments being used to allow for faster greens. Steve is losing some grounds crew at this time as they return to school.
(00:29:11) Golf Course Operations Manager Tod Fitterer reported on revenue increases at both Muni's and the pro shop from this time last year. About \$14K and \$16K, respectfully. Tod reported that about 84-89% of tee times are being utilized; he'd like to see that at 90 percent. Tod is already hearing from folks who want to book events for next year. The online tee time system is 'challenging at best' and is non-operational due to needed system/program upgrades. Doug O asked again about the possibility of collecting credit card fees by charging a 3% usage fee. Credit card fees currently cost the golf course about \$65K annually. Doug S shared that the city is looking into several options for credit card charges.
- C. Leagues
(00:41:06) Kathy McDonald-Women's League: The end-of- year league championship had 33 participants. The last night of ladies league will be a Derby this week which has 17 teams registered to play. Thursday night league was rained out four times this year. The Ladies Invitational held in June had 108 participants (54 teams). Kathy read a very complimentary email she received from a Great Falls golfer who attended the Invitational; compliments addressed course management and professionalism of everyone involved with hosting the Invitational.
(00:43:15) Doug Olson-Men's League: Doug reported that this is the last week of regular play for Mens League. The playoffs are next week – Monday thru Wednesday.

(00:44:47) Public Comment (Items not on this agenda) – none.

Member Communications-Announcements / Proposals for next Agenda – (May 21, 2024)

(00:44:53) Adjournment

Susan moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rob. All in favor, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM.

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