



Winter Pines Golf Course Advisory Board Regular Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2025 at 8:00 AM

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue

Present

David Webster, Justin Ingram, Nancy Freeman, Sidney Cash, Matt Hurst,

Absent

Mark Hitchner, Rosemary Maisenholder

Staff Present

Parks and Recreation Director Jason Seeley, Assistant Directors Cathleen Daus and Mike McCosker, Operations Manager Gregg Pascale, Recreation Coordinator Laura Halsey

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Sid Cash, at 8:09 a.m.

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes of February 17, 2025

Motion made by Nancy Freeman, seconded by David Webster, to approve the February 17, 2025 minutes

3. Public Comments (for items not on the agenda): Three minutes allowed for each speaker

None present

4. Action Items

No action items at this time

5. Non-Action Items

- a. Range Technology Quotes

Mr. Pascale, Golf Course Operations Manager, provided an overview of each company submitting a course technology proposal. Staff visited surrounding golf courses to see first-hand which companies they were using and how the software performed, with the goal of pinpointing which company would be best suited for the Winter Park course. The common denominator among all three of the companies is the need to build the structure at the back of the driving range. All three companies are very eager to speak with the board.

Trackman came in the lowest at \$3420.00, which is \$190.00 per bay, per month. InRange came in at \$4420.00, which is about \$245.50 per bay, per month. Both are radar-based technology, which means they do not require lighting to function. TopTracer came in at \$3960.00, which is \$220.00 per bay, per month but requires a 10' lighting footprint.

All three, from the perspective of not wanting to shed a lot of additional light into surrounding neighborhoods, would work. Mr. Pascale believes the companies should either come present a demonstration on the course or staff should visit the companies for a demonstration. Trackman is really golfer-based, InRange is inbetween, and TopTracer is more like Top Golf with Angry Birds, and other games.

The board inquired if staff had spoken to Dubsdread Golf Course, which staff has not but plan to schedule to do so soon. Mr. Webster asked if the course could be increased to 25 bays instead of 18. Mr. Pascale stated that many bays would be pushing the limits of the course. Ms. Freeman inquired about the mats being used as she finds them to be too hard and uncomfortable and referenced Top Golf having the same issue. Other topics of discussion were the additional services included by each company, the importance of having a real grass area, and cost-per-bay rates.

Mr. Seeley stated the item will be brought back to the board in April with all the costs and details to be voted on so it may move forward with being placed in the budget for the 2026 fiscal year.

6. Staff Updates

a. WP9/WP18 Revenue Update

Mr. Pascale informed the board of all the items and information Interlachen has donated to the Winter Park courses and stated his appreciation for them doing so.

There has been a nice increase in Interlachen members coming to the Winter Park Pines. Staff are taking it seriously and will work very hard to accommodate their requests for tee times. Holes 3 and 15 were the only greens affected by the algae blooms, but luckily, it was only the perimeter that was affected. They did have the area tested and are happy to say they should be quick to recover. This is caused by a build-up of chlorine in the water, and the process to avoid this is by diluting the water with rain water and pond water so it isn't potent enough to affect the greens.

Interlachen Golf Course will be closed until November 2025 for renovations and improvements. The board would like staff to bring the WP9 up to speed as it is not in the best shape. The concern would be having the Interlachen members come try out

both the Winter Park Pines and Winter Park 9, and not feeling that Winter Park 9 is maintained or updated as well as it should be. Mr. Seeley feels installing bunker liners will free up staff to do other tasks such as spraying, etc. Mr. Pascale stated the difference is that the greens are not in as good of shape this year when they had always been kept in pristine shape in the past, and he would like to get them back to that. Mr. Pascale suggested hiring a full-time employee who possesses the knowledge and experience necessary to complement Doug Andrade's expertise in maintaining the courses.

One of the changes would be allowing members to book up to five days in advance, and staff are anticipating an increase in play over the next couple of months. The board was satisfied with the revenue in the presence of a decrease in rounds. Staff will be working to increase the rounds by offering specials and discounts during slower time-frames. Mr. Pascale feels the one thing that may dampen this effort is the five-hour play time. He has been in discussions with staff to use the GPS systems to ensure groups are moving along consistently to maintain a four-hour max play time.

7. Board Comments

8. Upcoming Agenda Items

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:39am

Approved by the board

/s/ Laura Halsey, Recreation Coordinator