MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
ESTES VALLEY RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, April 19, 2016 – 7 p.m.
Estes Park Golf Course Clubhouse
1480 Golf Course Road, Estes Park, CO 80517

Present: Kathy Asche, Ken Czarnowski, Dave Kiser
Absent: Ron Duell (excused absence); Board member Greer resigned from the Board on 3-14-16
Staff: Janet Carabell, Tom Carosello, Mary Davis, Mark Miller, Kim Slininger
Others: Jackie Hertel (Estes Park), Jean McGuire (Estes Park), Jack Holmquist (Estes Park), Stan Gengler (Estes Park), Chuck Jordan (RLH Engineering, Inc.), Alan Antolak (Adolfson & Peterson), David Batey (Estes Park), Steve Deats (Estes Park), Rhonda Mickelson (Estes Park), Nan Ryan (Estes Park), Ruth Moser (Estes Park), Lee Kennicke (Estes Park), Sharyn Gartner (Estes Park)

Prior notice of this work session was given by posting a notice at the Town of Estes Park’s Municipal Building, the Estes Park Public Library, Estes Valley Recreation and Park District’s Administration Office, the Larimer County Clerk’s Office in Estes Park, CO., and the Boulder County Clerk’s Office in Boulder, CO.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Board President Asche began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Asche asked if any Board members had conflict of interests related to the agenda. No conflicts of interest were disclosed.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda for the meeting included:
A. Board Minutes:
   1. March 15, 2016, Board Work Session
   2. March 15, 2016, Regular Board Meeting
B. Trails Committee Minutes
   1. January 20, 2016, Trails Committee Meeting (Approval)
   2. April 10, 2016, Trails Committee Meeting (Review)
B. Staff Reports:
   1. Golf Operations
   2. Recreation Operations
   3. Aquatic Operations
   4. Marina Operations
   5. Golf Maintenance
   6. Parks/Trails Maintenance
   7. Campground Operations
   8. Human Resources
   9. Financial Reports
   10. Paid Bills

Moved by Dave Kiser, seconded by Ken Czarnowski, to approve the consent agenda, as presented.

No discussion. Ayes – 3. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR (ACTION) AGENDA

Moved by Ken Czarnowski, seconded by Dave Kiser, to approve the regular (action) agenda, as presented.

No discussion. Ayes – 3. Motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN & BOARD COMMENTS

CITIZEN COMMENT #1: Jack Holmquist asked the Board what the timeline is for filling the Board vacancy. Board President Asche stated that the District has received letters of intent and plans to conduct interviews next week. The plan is to have the Board member seat filled by the May 17, 2016, regular Board meeting. Jack Holmquist thanked the Board and then left the meeting.
BOARD COMMENTS - None.

Board President Asche closed the Citizen & Board Comments portion of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
Tom Carosello, Executive Director, supplied a written report prior to the meeting.

Mr. Carosello stated that staff is waiting for comments from David Seigenthaler (NPS) on the Common Point concessionaire contract regarding public participation and range clean-up issues and responsibility.

The Board did not have questions for Mr. Carosello.

PROJECT MANAGER’S REPORT
Kim Slininger, Project Manager, supplied a written report prior to the meeting and gave a report at the meeting.

Mr. Slininger suggested that the Board consider using a “best value” vs. “low bid” approach for future construction contract awards. Mr. Slininger stated that using a “best value” approach to construction contracts allows for informed decisions in selecting the best contractor based on past performance, ability to successfully perform like work, successful prior completion with minimal change orders, demonstrated flexibility in contract execution and of course, and best contract price.

Mr. Slininger reported that the District is waiting to see how Larimer County proceeds with the right-of-way (ROW) “take” process. To-date, nineteen offers have been made; the county has identified forty-nine properties for possible ROW takes.

Mr. Slininger reported that BOR cost share (match) for projects over the next three years is $150,000.

The Board did not have questions for Mr. Slininger.

OLD BUSINESS

Community Center Project - Owner’s Rep Update
Chuck Jordan (RLH Engineering, Inc.), Owner’s Representatives for the Estes Valley Community Center project, supplied a written progress report prior to the meeting covering the period from March 15, 2016, to April 19, 2016.

Mr. Jordan reported that the Design Advisory Group (DAG) reviewed RFQ submittals for the community center construction manager/general contractor (CM/GC). The RFQ was released on March 4, 2016, with a submission deadline of March 17, 2016. Four firms submitted RFQs: FCI Constructors, Adolfson and Peterson Construction, Pinkard Construction, and Heath Construction. The Design Advisory Group ranked and interviewed the top three firms, and recommended Adolfson and Peterson Construction. A draft CM/GC contract was reviewed and approved by the District’s legal counsel. RLH attended a pre-application meeting with Town of Estes Park staff for the community center Site Development Plan (sketch plan). A plat will be submitted to the Town on April 27 and sketch plan will be submitted to the Town by mid-May. Mr. Jordan reported that the development review plan with the Town is on schedule.

Discussion: Board member Czarnowski asked about the Town’s confusion regarding the site cost estimates of $1.8 million. Mr. Jordan replied that this is a rough estimate from the architect for costs associated with design/development of the community center site itself and the areas surrounding the outside of the building. Mr. Jordan noted that the original community center costs prepared by others in the past only included the building space and did not include anything outside of the building. Mr. Czarnowski stated that the Town needs clarification on this issue. Executive Director Carosello plans to attend the orientation for the new Town Trustees and he will explain the community center finances to the Trustees at that time. Mr. Carosello added that the Design Advisory Group minutes are sent directly to Town Administration to ensure Town staff receives the minutes and is kept informed.

Scottish-Irish Festival Contract (Discussion/Action)

Executive Director Carosello reported that he recently spoke with Peggy Young regarding changes to the Scottish-Irish Festival Contract and that the festival organizers are not interested in negotiating a new contract with a new fee schedule. According to Mr. Carosello, the festival organizers thought the contract signed in 2015 was good for five years; they did not understand that this contract renewed each year. Mr. Carosello will provide suggestions to the Board for a new fee structure. He stated that he will need direction from the Board as to how to proceed with contract negotiations.

Community Center - Construction Bridge Loan

Executive Director Carosello reported the District has not received word from the Town regarding a decision to leverage the Town’s 1A sales tax revenue sooner than the original ten-year timeframe for community center building costs. Given this, Mr. Carosello suggested that the Board continue to pursue a construction “bridge” loan for the community center, with the understanding that if the Town provides funding sooner, EVRPD will pay off the construction loan early.
Proceeding with the plans to obtain a loan will keep the project on schedule.

Discussion: Board member Czarnowski stated that given the fact that the Town is a community center project partner, he would think the Town would want to find a way to release funds sooner in order to save money on loan interest. Board member Kiser asked if the Town has provided a timeline for their answer. Mr. Carosello replied that they have not, noting that new Trustees were just elected.

Community Center Design - Childcare Facility & Other Considerations (Discussion)

Executive Director Carosello reported that two proposals were received for childcare service providers. The District will need to have the State of Colorado’s opinion/requirements re providing childcare. David Batey offered to write an RFP for the District to use in the selection of a childcare service provider.

Several citizens addressed the Board regarding community center space allocation: Jean McGuire stated that the proposed gym space is not large enough for Pickleball tournaments and is not adequate for four Pickleball courts. She added that retractable basketball hoops are also needed to make sure they are not in the way of the courts. Ms. McGuire said that 10-25 people regularly play Pickleball and that she has 70-75 people on her Pickleball distribution list. Lee Kennedy stated the more gym space is needed and urged the Board not to start out with too small of a gym space. Rhonda Mickelson noted that there are two fitness clubs in Town with similar facilities. She stated that the fitness space in the proposed community center plan has changed since it was voted on and that the fitness space has grown in size. Ms. Mickelson added that the current middle school gym space is inadequate and suggested that the Board consider looking at “percentages” of space when deciding what to downsize in the overall plan. David Batey stated that his wife plays Pickleball and he understands the issues, but he is concerned about expanding gym space and reducing other spaces to accommodate a larger gym. Mr. Batey worked on the election campaign and talked to over forty different groups about their needs. He stated that Pickleball users represent less than 1% of the District’s 11,000 residents (based on 70-75 Pickleball players). Mr. Batey suggested shrinking everything to cut costs, rather than just shrinking one space for one group to the disadvantage of other groups.

Discussion: Board President Asche suggested that Pickleball folks should talk to Town Trustees about providing 1A sales tax revenue up front to help fund the community center. Board member Kiser agreed that a larger gym space should be built now, rather than looking to expand the gym later. Executive Director Carosello noted that “small” is a relative term and that the planned gym space is quite large (9,550 sq. ft.); he asked the Board what to take out of the plan. Mr. Carosello said that the architect has been asked to look at moving interior walls to accommodate a larger gym, but that doing so will impact the upper floor space (eliminate the fitness space and shrink the multipurpose room space) and will add at least $1 million to building costs. Board President Asche said she agrees with Mr. Kiser’s comments and is disappointed that the gym space has shrunk. Executive Director Carosello asked for a recommendation from the Board to have OLC change the design, noting that this would need to be done ASAP. Board President Asche suggested expanding the footprint of the building. Chuck Jordan (RLH) said it will cost ~$300/sq. ft. to do so. Board member Czarnowski asked Mr. Carosello to tweak the plan to include a modest extension to the building that will increase the footprint for a larger gym space without shrinking other spaces. Mr. Czarnowski said the Board will need to be informed of the costs to do so, available options, and the status of the Town’s plans to provide 1A tax revenue sooner. Board member Kiser noted that increasing the gym space is not just to accommodate Pickleball, noting that it is a multi-use space. Mr. Carosello asked if Board wants to ask the Town to provide the ~$1 million now to pay for these changes.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Center Design – Junior Golf Space (Discussion)

Mark Miller, Golf Services Manager, reported that the concept of an indoor golf room has been in the planning stages for the past four years. The previous Executive Director, Mr. Rorabaugh, instructed Mark to start the process of planning for an indoor golf room for a community center. This planning was also to include the means to fund the room. In the preliminary plans developed before the community center ballot issue passed in November 2015, Mr. Rorabaugh felt it was best to have the golf area in a corner of one of the proposed gyms, or in an odd shaped area that may come available through the planning process. Golf staff believes that space in the community center for junior golf will greatly benefit the junior golf program, allowing kids to practice indoors in inclement weather, and further noted that funds have been put aside each year since 2012 for the project. He added that the project has the support of the local school district. In addition, the simulator will “grow” the game year-round and it is a multi-generational recreation offering. Staff proposed that the Junior Golf Fund can be used to completely fund the contents of the golf room, allowing junior golfers complete access to the room at little or no cost. Fees for usage of the room by adults would be priced to be competitive with neighboring cities with similar golf rooms and simulators. 100% of revenue would go to the community center. Mark pointed out that the Junior Golf Fund was established over thirty years ago as a funding source strictly to be used for growing the game of golf for the youth in the community. In 2009, the Board accepted a proposal from Mark to hold the fund under the District umbrella, while allowing the golf managers complete control of its spending. Mark estimates that at today’s prices, it will cost $15,000 to $20,000 to furnish the room with a state of the art golf simulator, mats, safety nets, tables, and other necessary equipment. Mark stated that these costs are well within the means of the Junior Golf fund and spending these funds will not diminish the current junior golf program. Golf Services staff distributed a survey to 400 people regarding the golf simulator with 150 responses received, with over 80% of respondents in favor of the simulator.
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Discussion: Board President Asche stated that this project has been in process for nearly five years. Mark noted that if the junior golf room and simulator are not built at the community center, it will have to be built somewhere else in the future and that there is no good alternative space for it. Ms. Asche noted that when Byron Holmes was approached about the issue, he said he was not interested in installing a golf simulator at MedEx (a private business). Mark added that Mr. Rorsbaugh informed another business owner in Estes Park that EVRPD planned to install a golf simulator and that business owner never installed a simulator because of EVRPD’s plans. Board member Kiser stated that if the room and all the equipment is paid for by the Junior Golf program, it is a “no-brainer” to install it in the community center. Board member Czamowski asked about space requirements. Executive Director Carosello said ~30x20 sq. ft. space is needed. He added that it would not take up gym space, but instead would be installed in the one story space allocated for stretching/warm-up. Mr. Carosello asked the Board for direction on whether or not to leave the simulator in the community center building plan. Board members stated that they had no objections to the golf simulator room and directed Mr. Carosello to proceed with plans to install it.

(Several citizens left the meeting after this discussion ended.)

Recommendation Regarding Selection of Community Center General Contractor

Executive Director Carosello reported that the District received submittals from four firms in response to the RFO issued by RLH Engineering to solicit qualified construction management/general contractor companies for the community center project in early March. Interviews were conducted with three firms on March 28. Firms interviewed were Pinkard Construction, FCI Constructors, and Adolfson and Peterson Construction. Based on the interview process, plus findings which include appropriate fee structure, relevant project experience, availability and discussions with references, staff recommended that the Board authorize RLH Engineering to begin contract negotiations with Adolfson and Peterson Construction. Chuck Jordan from RLH stated that a standard contract is being used which has been reviewed by the District's law firm, and that the contract should be ready within two weeks.

Moved by Dave Kiser, seconded by Ken Czarnowski, to authorize RLH Engineering to begin contract negotiations with Adolfson and Peterson Construction for construction management and general contractor services for the Estes Valley Community Center project.

No discussion. Ayes - 3. Motion carried unanimously.

Dry Gulch Road to Lake Estes Trail Underpass (Approval)

Executive Director Carosello reported that the Town of Estes Park has begun the Dry Gulch Road Rehabilitation Project, which includes a proposed, hard-surface link to the Lake Estes Trail at Wapiti Meadows via the Highway 34 underpass. The Town has requested EVRPD’s Board to grant permission to engineer and construct this link. EVRPD staff has met with representatives of the Town and the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to gauge impacts and potential costs. The portion of the trail link which EVRPD would be responsible for maintaining is less than 150 feet (south of Highway 34) and thus potential maintenance costs are estimated to be nominal. The BOR has indicated preliminary approval and requires a decision from EVRPD’s Board prior to issuing a special use permit to the Town for engineering and construction. The Town is not requesting engineering/construction funds, but would like EVRPD to maintain the portion of the link south of Highway 34. Since the link will add further connectivity to the existing trails system and not require District funding for construction, staff recommended the Board grant permission to the Town for engineering and construction of the proposed link (recognizing EVRPD will maintain the link south of Highway 34 once it is completed).

Moved by Ken Czarnowski, seconded by Dave Kiser, to grant permission to the Town of Estes Park for engineering and construction of the Dry Gulch Road/Highway 34 Underpass trail link to the Lake Estes Trail at Wapiti Meadows.

No discussion. Ayes - 3. Motion carried unanimously.

FURTHER BUSINESS

- Meetings will be scheduled soon for Board vacancy interviews and for GC/CM contract approval.
- Next regular Board meeting:
  Tuesday, May 17 – 7:00 p.m. – 18-hole Golf Course Clubhouse

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Kathryn Asche, Board President  Ron Duell, Board Secretary

Recorded by Janet Carabell
Golf Survey Report for Board

Golf is a large function of our recreation district. With our climate, it’s impossible to have an adequate winter season for any of our main functions. We have a rather prominent golf community in Estes Park, with nearly 400 season pass holders and about half of them living in Estes Park year round. There are also several hundred more who pay green fees rather than purchase season passes. Most golfers, to their dismay, put the clubs away for the winter in November, with nothing to look forward to other than a nice day here or there to get to the range or the 9-hole course. In the summer, the golf courses could be so busy, a person may want to spend just an hour playing golf, not four or five hours. A golf simulator gives the golfers, aspiring golfers, and non-golfers a new and interesting activity that combines mental focus with physical exertion. The benefits of golf are countless, for juniors it’s a way to promote honesty, sportsmanship, and integrity. For adults, it’s a good way to exercise, promote mental acuity and have fun.

A golf simulator can either be a computer generated golf course or driving range. The player can choose to play courses such as Torrey Pines in San Diego, or St. Andrews, in Scotland. The player can also simply hit balls and get instant feedback on their swing. The simulator is the most interactive, informative, and fun alternative to an actual game of golf that is available.

The community center is the perfect place to house such a facility. The community center will already be staffed, all day and into the evening, throughout the year. The simulator would be available for a nominal fee, less than $10 per person for an hour of use if you gather 3-4 people, and about the same for a half hour for an individual. The space it uses is small, it will not take away from gym space, or community rooms. The best part is, the equipment would be paid for, at no cost to the district, and the district reaps 100% of the benefits.

Survey Statistics

The survey was sent to about 400 residents of Estes Park. Frequent and very infrequent golfers alike. We received 150 responses.

- 90% of surveyors said they would use such a facility, mostly in the winter
- 70% of people surveyed said they would use indoor hitting nets without a simulator component
- The simulator would be used mostly mid-day and into the afternoon, but some in the evening and early morning
- Price would make a large impact or some impact to use the simulator on 76% of the surveyed.
- The survey also indicates that about 65% of the surveyors are over 60 years of age. The 10% that said they would not use the simulator if available, also came from people over the age of 60 with the exception of two.
• The 30% of surveyors under the age of 60 were 95% yes for use of a simulator. About 82% of surveys strongly agreed or agreed that integrating technology and physical golf activity was the best way to grow the game. 9% had a neutral stance and 9% percent disagreed.

The frequent positive comments noted that we should consider more than one simulator, make sure it’s large enough, and that a simulator is, overall, a great idea. The few negative comments noted a different location other than the community center, price has a big impact, and that the original plan voted on did not explicitly show a “golf room.”
Would you want indoor hitting bays? (Hitting balls into a net without the simulator component)

**Response:**
- Yes: 104
- No: 45

What time of year would you use it most? Select all that apply:

- Winter: 118 (76.5%)
- Summer: 13 (8.15%)
- Spring: 48 (31.8%)
- Fall: 35 (24.05%)
- Whenever Possible: 57 (40.14%)

# of people who answered the question: 142

What time of day would you want to use the simulator and/or hitting bays? (Select all that apply):

- Early Morning: 48 (34.29%)
- Mid Day: 63 (45.29%)
- Afternoon: 65 (46.71%)
- Evening after work or school: 30 (21.43%)

# of people who answered the question: 140

Would you be interested in getting a golf lesson in the simulator?

**Response:**
- Yes: 91
- No: 32
- I would wait: 25

# of people who answered the question: 148
Survey Results

Open-ended Responses

Definitely need one that is available to the public. Winter off time in Estes is a big factor and a simulator would help.

What other locations have you considered for the simulator other than the Community Center?

Will be used especially in the winter when the wind howls and I want to keep my game in shape. In the community center makes sense since it will be open and manned every day! Convenience is very important to me!

Long offseason so would be great

We have a vacation home in town, so we would only be alternating weekend users... but the idea is great for cold, snowy and/or windy days or when the course is closed.

Love this idea! The cost to use it in the winter, bad weather, etc. could be another option to add to our annual memberships!

Good idea for those who enjoy winter in EP.

It would give people a way to stay active all year long, especially when the weather is bad.

You should allow younger kids in the simulator or the bays like the driving range. It would help get younger kids into golf especially k-3

Sounds awesome! Let’s do it!!!

Price must be reasonable. Will there be a room charge or membership charge in addition to the simulator time? There should be no repetitive services of any kind between the community center and private business offerings in EP.

This is a great tool to help youth and adults of all ages.

This is the future. It helps experienced, but also those that would like to start.

good idea, especially in winter.

I believe its a great idea and even though I am not interested in lessons I believe lessons would be a positive additional as well.

would benefit girls golf team in the spring when they can’t practice because of the cold and snowy weather.

A golf simulator would be great for the community. It would be huge for people of all ages, golfers and non alike. It would benefit the district as far as making money, as well as keeping people interested in golf. It would be great to have golf in the winter, something that many other places in Colorado do not have. I suggest people who don’t know what this can do check out things like Top Golf, and virtual golf.

This is a no brainer we should implement as soon as possible. My only concern is we need more than 1. Thanks for considering this as an option to our community.

The price would be a big factor. But, I also want it to pay for itself. You need another survey about price and length of each session. Online sign up is also important.

I think it would help us keep us somewhat practiced during the winter months.

Would be a great practice method during inclement weather. I would be willing to pay a charge for use if it were reasonable. I assume there would need to be some sort of scheduling for use?

Would be a nice addition

We have quite a number of golfers, both men and women, who are permanent residents of Estes Park and who have all indicated a serious interest in having a simulator available for practice and league play. We even considered putting one in our home but did not have the ceiling height. My wife and I are all for installing one at the new rec center.

For those of us who golf and live year round in Estes Park this would a wonderful addition.

I don’t think the golf simulator should be in the community center. It could be built in the vacated administration offices at Lake Estes Golf Course. There you could combine teaching and pro shop with the experience.

It needs to be available to the community period. The youth of Estes who golf would really benefit for this considering girl year round here is not an option. I think
that this would be a awesome facility to add to the ref center. As it will go to use most of the winter and spring.

GREAT IDEA!!!

Build out the area for two simulators. Initially purchase one and see how the response is. If good results are apparent, then buy a second one at some point. But initially set aside enough space for two hitting areas. One side could be used as a teaching area and the other for using the simulator. Don't buy two simulators at the beginning. Buy one and see how the first winter goes. I really think some space for indoor teaching is critical. We can then work with our juniors throughout the winter and get them more ready for the Spring golf season. Fletcher Shields

This would be a nice addition to the Community Center, but not to the detriment of the other features outlined in the ballot initiative.

Would you need a tee time to use the simulator like normal?

I always thought a simulator would be an outstanding addition to recreational activities here in Estes Park, especially during those long, winter months. But I would use it all the time, and it would be great for lessons.

I think it would be a great tool for golfers of all ages. It will also help people stay into the game year around.

I think it would be a great tool for golfers of all ages. It will also help people stay into the game year around.

Good idea, always thought it would be nice to have a indoor facility in winter but it would take lot of money to construct one.

A golf simulator is a great idea. A simulator gives the quite large population of golfers something to do in the winter. It also invites new people to the game. It's important for this game to grow. For the sake of the rec district as well as for the sake of golf. We must start thinking of the future of this community not just what people want a certain generation of people want right now.

Reducing the venerable and honorable game of golf to some geek's idea of how the game should really be played is disrespectful, and disgusting. Reducing the thousands of beautiful golf courses where a player can commune with nature, mostly avoid people with cell phone phobia (they should be banned from golf courses) and occasionally hit a bull elk in the ass with a good drive has more value to real golfers than spending money on 700 sq.ft. of computer space.

I think it is an inappropriate question and survey to ask what people want without a price tag. We should also do a calculation to determine how many people will actually use and benefit. This simulator was not in the originally proposal and although the original survey was also inappropriate, pie in the sky, this direction change compounds the problem. It is bait and switch. I am a golfer, love the game, want other people to love the game, but a simulator should not be a consideration in a community of 6000 people and if it is the people who play the sport should pay for it.

Estes Park needs this!

Do it.

Good idea! With our winter winds and cold something like this is about the only way to work on your golf swing in comfortable conditions.

Sounds OK.

I think it's a great idea for all ages with limitless opportunities.

Given the weather conditions in Estes Park for 8 months of the year, this would provide an opportunity to grow in this sport year-round.

Like the idea.

I think that would be great, especially in the off season, Toby Farrel

Great idea, especially for the winter months when we can't play outside. I highly support the idea.

WANT THIS. It is important to have one of these, please make sure this happens.

Why not put the golf simulator in the hangar restaurant? That way it could be open all year. I don't think it should be part of our new community center.

Yes! something to do on cold, windy days! Big money maker from what I gather from other palces that have them. Usually waiting lists!

I think it's an awesome idea! I would use it as much as I could depending on cost.

Yes! Big Asset!!

It would benifit Girl's golf because they have many practices cancelled due to bad weather.

I just used one in Austin TX. and loved it. It was a lot more than two bays, food, drinks, music and people to sorta give lessons, sorta.

Tho would be a good thing, it would give our youth another outlet in the winter months.

I think the simulator would benifit the junior golf program and would be a great teaching tool for our high school golfers.

I have played in winter golf simulator leagues here in Colorado. It was very popular and a lot of fun, other communities are using this technology to grow the game of golf. I think this would prove to be an asset to our community.

For years, people have talked about having a golf simulator. It would help our golf teams to grow stronger and help many adults to improve their games and maintain their swing throughout the winter months.

Great idea with our changing weather all year makes sense.
I do not like 5 hour rounds of golf. The simulator would be a quick way of getting in some golf without spending hours out on the course.

Fee to use it needs to be incorporated into season pass. As this offering was not included in the package to tax payers for funding vote, it should not be included in the rec center if it causes components that were to be excluded. I'm also concerned that the overall fee to access the rec center will be cost prohibitive given the dollars necessary to sustain the total facility.

I don't think it will translate into more golfers. I am concerned about selling this to a public that voted for gym space, not indoor golf.

I am a golfer on the Estes Park High School's Girls Golf team and this simulator would be very benificial for the team. Since our season is in spring, we end up missing a lot of practice due to weather. If we had an indoor simulator, the team would be able to practice even when the weather outside is bad, and that would be very helpful in making our golf game better.

I think it is a good idea.

My survey answers are not representative since I am a summer resident and I think the simulator would be most worthwhile for year- around residents. It would be very good for those days that the weather prevented play on the course.

I believe it would benefit the hole community. Would be great in the summer months for visitors.

It should be a must in the community center, the same as a track, pickleball, and basketball courts.

I think it can be useful to have, I only recommend making it tall and wide because for me being tall it makes it difficult and uncomfortable to swing.

Great idea. Someone really thinking about the ways to extend the visibility of the course. Good luck.

As I understand it, one of the local health clubs is planning to add a golf simulator. That would be my preference, that it be something offered through private enterprise rather than at or the Estes Valley Community Center. By the way, when was the proposed facility renamed the "Estes Valley Recreation Center?"

It would help with my swing, and direction.

Something I could see using, Might also take a lesson to try to improve, Wouldn't be willing to pay too much for the simulator but a small fee would be OK. Sounds like a good idea to promote golf in the community.

Golf is about being outdoors to me. And if this wasn't in the original plan that we all voted for, then I don't think it's fair to the voters to add it now. Have a fund drive to secure the money for it if people want it that much...then add it.

I have wanted one for 15 years. I hope we find a way to make this happen. If not, at least have an indoor "driving range"

Tee it up and they will come. wa ltc01927@msn.com

Would be useful to sharpen skills and improve your game

I think its a good idea.

This would be a big help to those of us who winter in EP. (Although I may be too old to use it by the time it is installed.)

would use it if tee times were easy to get and available

good thought

I would use the bays in the winter

the 700 square foot space would be only a single use space. Given the fact that the community center is scaling down because of financial issues, the 700 square feet should go to a multi-use area. For example, the gymnasium should not be downsized.

would be a good activity for the community.

This is a fantastic opportunity for both experienced and beginning golfers. As an experienced golfer there is very little opportunity to practice or play between the time the 18 hole course closes until it reopens. It also provides an opportunity for the pro's (e.g. Austin Logan, Mark Miller) to provide instruction throughout the year.

Make sure the public knows the simulator would be paid for with funds from the Junior Golf program and not tax dollars

In addition to golfers wanting to use it for practice, lessons, etc., a simulator (not just a bay) could perhaps provide an additional source of family recreation, which may stimulate more interest in outdoor golf.

YES

I think it is a good idea for the area. I am not a resident, so we use the golf courses when we come up...Personally I wouldn't use a simulator BUT there are several in the area where I live and they seem to always be full. I have used them for lessons and practice when courses are closed.

Good idea. I've used one when I was younger, fun!

Since there are no simulators in the area you have to drive to Fort Collins or Loveland I would be very convenient to have and I think we get a lot of use out of it.

Would be a great addition to the new Rec Center and could be key to growing the sport in the Town of Estes! Would be a great tool to allow people of all ages to continue to develop their skills all throughout the year rather than having to play catch up once the weather finally gets nice enough.
will depend on price. Would really like to see a package that combines use of the simulator and a lesson.

My use of a golf simulator is very limited so I may not be the best person to answer this portion of your survey. My answer on # two should be probably. I have however used indoor golf bays with video camera's and found them worthwhile (two winters Leonard's Golf). The facility kept me engaged in my sport during the season when our course was closed and/ or the weather prevents the activity. It just became too far for me to drive to Erie all the time. As per the lesson aspect of the indoor hitting area, this is really how most golf instructors work today. My lesson experiences with video (Stan Fenn – Harmony GC) were positive as they provided instant feedback. As a coach nearly all of my best players used video as their primary source of instruction. Younger people have video interaction in their lives today and technology is a big part of their learning experience. My niece took golf instruction with video for four years during high school. Today she is accomplished golfer with a great love of the game, I believe that the better you are at this game the more likely you are to participate. Good luck – Jim Duell

We need this because of our varying weather and the technology involved and of course the social bonding.

I think this would be very useful to have at our disposal.

I think a golf simulator is a good thing for our community. It would generate more interest in the game of golf and give the golfers a chance to play when the weather doesn't permit to play out side.

Great

Highly needed for growth of the game.

I think it would provide a welcome addition to the golf facilities that are already in place and would provide an opportunity to grow the game to all ages. I would hope that the price for using it would be affordable to all, especially the junior population.

I am 100% for the simulator. I have been going down the hill over the past 5 years to access both instruction and simulator at an indoor facility. As part of the community center, this addition would be used to a high degree by a large number of golfers who stay in the area over the winter. I do play golf, twice a week and personally thought this was going to be part of the center once constructed. One reason why I voted yes! As I understand, cost for the simulator and equipment is minimal to the district. What a positive this would be for the district, all needed is the space! When was the last time a low cost money making option was presented to the district?

I was down at the new top golf in engelwood during a nice day in the winter. We had to wait over three hours to use a simulator type facility. A golf simulator would be an excellent addition to the community center. Golf has so many physical and mental benefits. Our community may not even know how this will positively influence its members.

Total Responses: 102