

Meeting Postponed with Prospective New Owner of RVR Golf Course

Last Friday in this space, we told you about a scheduled meeting this week with the prospective new owner of the RVR golf course, Crystal Outdoors, LLC. The meeting was to have taken place on Wednesday, Oct. 3. On Tuesday, we received word that Crystal Outdoors, LLC, was postponing the meeting until completing its due diligence on purchasing the golf course.

The Board and Golf Advisory Committee are disappointed about the delay, as the meeting would have been the first opportunity to learn about who the prospective new ownership team is, about their intentions for the golf course, and the terms of the sale. Our initial meeting with the prospective new owners is now expected to take place in early November.

As we learn more about the prospective purchase of the course, we will share that information with the RVR community.

Upcoming Site Visit by Golf Course Consultant, Billy Casper Golf

Our Board continues to work with its consultant, Billy Casper Golf, to understand and evaluate various scenarios for the golf course. Next week, a team from Casper Golf will be on site at RVR to see the facility for themselves, and to talk with key personnel from RVR Golf.

During the visit, Casper Golf will fully explore the golf operation and maintenance of the course. Casper Golf will gather financial data to better understand how the course might be operated profitably, identify long-term capital needs, and estimate what effect a golf course closure would have on RVR property values.

After the visit, Casper Golf will prepare a comprehensive report to the RVR Board. The report is intended to provide the Board with detailed data analysis, to indicate what it could potentially cost to own and/or operate the course. In addition, the report will provide an estimate of “fair market value” of the RVR golf course. We will share highlights from the report after we receive it.

Exploring the Golf Course as Possible Open Space

As discussed at the Sept. 26 Board meeting, the Golf Advisory Committee has begun exploring the possibility of converting the golf course into open space – as an alternative to having an operational golf course in our community.

While the golf course is clearly defined and has been operational for two decades, the idea of open space is more subjective and less well defined. To help the Board and RVR community better understand how open space might work here, we've begun initial dialog with [DHM Design](#), a large landscape architecture firm with offices in Carbondale, Denver, Durango and Bozeman, Montana. DHM has experience in designing large open spaces, here in the Roaring Fork Valley, and throughout the west.

In our discussions with DHM, we will look at various uses of open space. In addition to evaluating the aesthetic component of open space, we will define costs associated with conversion to open space, and maintaining the open space – if the community decides to take that path.

In order to fairly compare golf operational costs with open space maintenance costs, we will develop estimates of what it costs to maintain open space – over a one-year period, and over 10 years. Those are the same operational and maintenance metrics we're using to evaluate the golf course.

We'll keep you posted as we begin to get more information about open space.

Finally, a reminder: the Board's focus, as it explores golf course and open space options, is on three key objectives:

- Ensuring long-term sustainability and well-being of the community
- Preventing development that changes the nature of the community
- And, preserving RVR property values