

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAKE LURE MARINE COMMISSION HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2007, 1:00 P.M. AT THE LAKE LURE MUNICIPAL CENTER

PRESENT: Presiding Officer Jim Proctor
Commission Member Dick McCallum
Commission Member Jeanine Noble
Commission Member Russ Pitts

ABSENT: Commission Member Watkins
H. M. Place III, Town Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Presiding Officer Proctor called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Commission member McCallum gave the invocation.

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Commission member Noble made a motion to approve the agenda as amended by revising agenda item number 4 as 4a and adding an agenda item as 4b to consider a request from camp care. Commission member McCallum seconded the motion and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Consider a Request from Nathan Larson on Behalf of Camp Lurecrest for Approval of a Commercial License for a kayak

After discussion, Commission member Pitts made a motion to approve the request from Nathan Larson on behalf of Camp Lurecrest for a commercial license for a sixteen-foot, three person sea kayak and authorize town staff to issue a permit. Commission member Noble seconded the motion and the vote of approval was unanimous. (Copy of letter from Nathan Larson dated April 2, 2007 is attached).

Consider a Request from Carrie S. Keuten on Behalf of Camp Care to Waive the Fees for Three Motorized Boat Permits from June 30, 2007 through July 7, 2007

Lake Advisory Chairman Bob Washburn informed Marine Commission members that the Lake Advisory Committee also reviewed the request from Camp Care for the waiver of boat permit fees for three ski boats to be used over their one week session (July 4th week). Mr. Washburn said the Lake Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommend that Camp Care be disallowed to use three boats in a commercial capacity (250 campers) for the following reasons:

- (1.) The commercial model for the 2007 calendar year is at capacity.
- (2.) Based on the Lake Use Study performed last year, the lake's carrying capacity for safe boating would be compromised significantly with such intense use by a third party operation catering to such a large group of people.
- (3.) The week of July 4th is traditionally the most crowded and dangerous on Lake Lure, as well as every other waterway in the United States (over 25% of all boating accidents that occur each year occur during the month of July).

Marine Commission members held a discussion regarding complaints received from citizens about Camp Care last year being allowed to use boats that exceeds boat length restrictions and operating in a manner causing boating safety concerns.

Marine Commission members agreed to consider a future request from Camp Care contingent upon certain stipulations which included the commercial model for that calendar year has not exceeded the lake's carrying capacity for safe boating, complying with Lake Lure's boat length restrictions/regulations, obtaining sufficient boat insurance coverage, obtaining boat safety training through the North Carolina Wild Life Commission, and use the lake during non-peak periods excluding holidays and weekends. LAC Chairman Bob Washburn mentioned that Camp Care could coordinate with other authorized commercial entities on the lake such as Camp Lurecrest for boating activities.

After discussion, Commission member Noble made a motion to deny approval of Camp Care's request for three motorized boat permits for the period of June 30, 2007 through July 7, 2007 and the waiver of boat permit fees based upon recommendations by the Lake Advisory Committee. Commission member Pitts seconded the motion and the vote of approval was unanimous. (Attached are copies of a letter from Carrie Keuten dated March 6, 2007 regarding the Camp Care and a memo from Bob Washburn dated April 10, 2007 detailing the Lake Advisory Committee's recommendations.)

Discussion Regarding Lake Issues

LAC Chairman Bob Washburn informed Marine Commission members that the Lake Advisory Committee after an in-depth discussion with Doug Long, unanimously approved the recommendation to allow Dragon Boat Races on May 5 - 10, 2008 contingent upon proof of proper insurance coverage (usually provided by the US Dragon Boat Federation) and that the event will be coordinated by Doug Long with Dynamic Events and Management, Inc of Knoxville, Tennessee to be held in the river channel as the preferred location with the town bay as the secondary site.

Doug Long spoke briefly about the Dragon Boat Races. Mr. Long said the proceeds after expenses from this event would be donated to Camp Lurecrest which is a non-profit organization to cover fees for children in the local area to attend camp.

After discussion, Commission member Pitts made a motion to approve the request from Doug Long to hold Dragon Boat Races on May 5 - 10, 2008 contingent upon proof of proper insurance coverage and the event being coordinated by Doug Long with Dynamic Events and Management, Inc. of Knoxville, Tennessee to be held in the river channel as the preferred location with the town bay as the secondary site. Also, the proceeds after expenses from this non-profit fund-raiser event be donated to Camp Lurecrest. Commission member McCallum seconded the motion and the vote of approval was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items of discussion, Commission member Noble made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:25 p.m. Commission member McCallum seconded the motion and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Mary A. Flack, MMC
Lake Lure Marine Commission Clerk