



Lake Lure Lake Advisory Board

April 1, 2019

Call to Order

Chairman Mark Helms called to order the April 1, 2019 meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 3:30 p.m. at the Lake Lure Town Hall.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mark Helms, Chairman

Gary Johnson (via phone conference)

Michael Yelton

Sonya Ledford

Gary Hasenfus

Town Council Members present:

Councilman John Kilby

Other Members Present:

Dean Givens, Director of Lake Operations

Absent:

Dan Breneman

Bill Ashman

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MEETING MINUTES

The Agenda for the April 1, 2019 meeting was reviewed. **Mr. Hasenfus made a motion to approve the Agenda. Mr. Johnson seconded and all were in favor.**

The Minutes of the March 4, 2019 Board Meeting were reviewed. **Ms. Ledford made a motion to approve the Minutes. Mr. Johnson seconded and all were in favor.**

Discussion of proposed changes to the Lake Use Regulations regarding hour meters and vacation rentals – Mr. Givens advised that the sub-committee needs to meet and discuss the criteria that needs to be reviewed. Mr. Helms discussed that his group has selected vacation rentals that the group will keep up on their hours for the season. There was discussion on how these hours would be kept, one being vacation rentals and one for hourly two day max rentals. The study is in the process. The study should be completed by November 1, 2019.

Discuss and provide recommendations to the Marine Commission to amend the Lake Use

Regulations regarding Complimentary Boat Permits – Mr. Givens reviewed with the Board what was taken to the Marine Commission regarding complimentary boat permits for town employees that have retired. The Marine Commission and Town Attorney asked for further definition of this request. There was discussion on specifics on a retiree that had served the town for eight years full time as well as several years reserve status. The recommendation that was made by the LAB meeting on March 4, 2019 referred to retired employees that worked for the Town for a minimum of ten years be afforded a boating permit with no fee. There was further discussion for police officers that remained working for the Town in a Reserve status. It was discussed that four (4) years of Reserve service should equal one (1) year of full time status.

Mr. Hasenfus made a motion to recommend to the Marine Commission that retired employees from the Town of Lake Lure that had served 10 (ten) years and/or a police officer that had served over a total number of years equaling 10 (ten) by either full time service alone or additional service as a Reserve Officer with each 4 (four) years equaling 1 (one) full time year of service, would be able to obtain a yearly Town Boat Permit at no cost providing the vessel is in the retirees name. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Discuss Lake Advisory Board Meeting schedule – Mr. Givens proposed to the Board to change meeting dates to every three months. He mentioned that the Marine Commission met every three months and the LAB could meet the month before to handle business or anything that needed to go to the Marine Commission. Mr. Hasenfus was concerned that there would be matters that needed addressing before the meeting dates. He mentioned that the Board may not be as effective. Mr. Hasenfus suggested every other month. Mr. Helms stated that because all Board Members were not present, that the Board should review the past meetings and see what would have been affected if the meetings would have been scheduled either quarterly or every other month. Mr. Givens stated that if there was any special concern between meetings that they could call a Special Meeting. There was a brief discussion and the topic was tabled until the May meeting.

Report from Lake Operations – Mr. Givens discussed his monthly report. He also mentioned that as of April 1, 2019, Mr. Garrett Murphy was now working as the Park and Recreation Coordinator. Mr. Givens stated that Mr. Murphy may attend meetings from time to time. There was discussion regarding Lake Patrol for the upcoming season and Mr. Givens stated Police Chief Humphries was in the process of filling slots for Lake Patrol.

Report from Council Liaison – Mr. Kilby discussed that at the March Marine Commission meeting the Recommendation from the Lake Advisory Board regarding boat permits for retirees was discussed and sent back to this Board with the request to clarify the recommendation concerning police reserves. Mr. Kilby also mentioned that a resident came before the Council concerning a permit request that was tabled by the LAB until the study was complete. The Council discussed in depth the facts and the decision of the Lake Advisory Board and the Council upheld the Lake Advisory's decision. Mr. Kilby stated the decision was unanimous.

Special Topic – Mr. Helms discussed with the Board the Council Workshop regarding the engineer's report of the Dam. Mr. Helms felt that the Schnabel Report was quite different than what the previous

engineer reported. Mr. Helms briefed the Board with details from that workshop stating that the dam was designed to be an electric generating structure and not so much used as flood control. The Town's preparation for heavy rains and releasing water from the dam is key to maintain the structure. Mr. Helms mentioned that the Schnabel report even mentioned that the dam was an engineering marvel and that the safety standards were not present when the dam was constructed in the 20's and that they only came about in the 70's. He discussed that the dam was well built and was engineered to overflow. He discussed that the study mentioned repairs that were needed and that with these, the dam should last many more years. Mr. Kilby discussed the State and the Dam Bridge issues. He mentioned that there is a possibility of the State helping to fund the cost on construction of a bridge if this was the decision.

Mr. Kilby also mentioned a very unfortunate decision on the Daily Courier's Editor, Richie Starnes, part, who while on one hand wrote a very good article regarding the dam findings, chose to use a misleading headline to sell the paper. The headline he used was "Engineers Rule Dam Not Safe". Mr. Kilby stated that even in the article, there is no suggestion of engineers ruling the dam unsafe. Mr. Kilby stated that the Council and Mayor are looking into a solution regarding this issue. Mr. Kilby reiterated his sentiments from a previous meeting that the Town is very fortunate to have an Engineer for a Mayor and that Mr. Cooley is invaluable during the dam's structure study.

Fishery & Ecosystem – Mr. Hasenfus discussed with the Board that even though adding the trees and Shad fish were not put in the Lake this year due to budget restrictions, the schedule will be back on track in 2020. Mr. Kilby asked if there would be any impact from the lake's diving birds on the bait fish. Mr. Hasenfus stated there should be no impact. There was discussion regarding the trash boom being in place. Mr. Givens stated that they are waiting to get the 'quick connect' in place before pulling the boom back in. Mr. Hasenfus discussed the new buoy for the fishing reef that was designed by the Lake Lure Village Resort cove. The trees used for this were those that were by the town's boat house. This reef will be in 15' of water and should become a great fishing area. He also thanked David and Esther Lusk for covering the fishery reports in LLLOA (Lake Lure Lakefront Owners Association) Newsletter. He stated that that article will also be placed in the next Breeze publication.

Lake Structures – Mr. Johnson stated there was nothing new to add.

Emergency Preparedness & Response – Mr. Breneman was not present to discuss this.

Dredging & Watershed Stabilization – Mr. Yelton asked Mr. Givens how the dredging project was going. Mr. Givens stated that the project is wrapping up and should be complete by the end of this week when they will move into the Firefly Cove area. There was further discussion regarding the dredging project and how the dredging has been measured. There was discussion regarding the large amount of sediment coming down through the Rocky Broad River. Mr. Kilby commented the fact that the Lake has become is a silt pond for Henderson County, Buncombe County and McDowell County. Mr. Kilby stated that there are the beginnings of attention to that matter. He also mentioned that if you want to see why the Town is spending so much money on dredging, to go look up in the Edneyville area where bridges have washed out and where the creek beds have washed out. There was continued discussion regarding the washouts in these counties over the past several years that is now in Lake Lure as sediment.

Water Quality – Mr. Ashman was not present to discuss this.

Regulations & Law Enforcement – Ms. Ledford mentioned the boat show wherein there were now 26 boats registered for the show on May 11th. Mr. Wittmer who was in the audience mentioned to the Board that there is now a concrete walkway from the street all the way to the end of the new piers.

Guests Forum

Discussion regarding dredging in Coves

Mr. Harris of 179 Dogwood discussed in depth with the Board the sediment issues he was having in his cove. He stated his attempts to rectify the problems himself, however has now felt that his efforts are being overrun with the amount of sediment coming in. He discussed with the Board about the loss of depth he has at his boat house. There was discussion of what the Town had set aside in previous years for public assist in sediment removal, however due to budgetary issues, that amount was not set aside and the Town has run out of funds for dredging. There was further discussion regarding other options. Mr. Jonathan Hinkle who was in the audience spoke up for Mr. Harris and mentioned he had been out to look at the cove in mention. He discussed several options, one of which seemed very workable and involved him purchasing a portable dredging type device. There was discussion of where to place the sediment and Mr. Hinkle stated that there were geo-bags that the sediment could be placed in and possibly used to construct a retaining wall or it could be dropped into the deeper depths of the Lake. There was continued constructive discussion regarding the portable dredger and that it could be used in other areas as well.

Mr. Harris asked if the Town could somehow help with the cost of this. Mr. Givens suggested bringing a Proposal detailing the job and the cost and what money the homeowner would be able to come up with, and bring this to the Lake Advisory Board to recommend to the Council. Mr. Kilby was very positive about the idea and commented that was good to see a contractor assist the public in coming up with ideas to help with the sediment problems. Mr. Johnson suggested that Mr. Givens get the list of lakefront homeowners to ascertain who has critical sediment issues and ascertain who could match funding with the Town. There was further discussion on possible permits that Mr. Hinkle would need and Mr. Givens stated that there was none.

Discussion regarding vacation rental boat permits

Mr. Sheehan of 1104 Memorial Highway mentioned that due to many distractions he had during the application for boat permits, he neglected to get his Vacation Rental Boat Permit. He was coming to the Board to ask for permission to apply for the permit being that he was losing business on his Vacation Rental being that he couldn't offer a boat with it. There was discussion regarding that there were a total of 3 people on the list that were waiting to get permits, however due to the Board conducting a study of hours used on the lake, that these three boat owners were being penalized by not being able to come to the Board to get special permission to purchase a boat permit. There was discussion of what Mr. Brenneman had just been through and that he was denied a permit until the study was complete on November 1, 2019. There was continued discussion regarding vacation rentals being a separate category. Mr. Kilby stated that he was not happy with boat owners who were purchasing permits that didn't live in town, but using the Town's docks to rent their boats out of. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that those wanting to purchase boat permits, that were Vacation Rental Properties that were on the waiting list for approval by the Board, would be able to come to the

Board. Mr. Yelton stated that, while there was ample time to apply for yearly permits, he didn't want to penalize those who forgot by not issuing a permit for them.

Mr. Hasenfus made a motion, to offer to those currently on the waiting list for a Vacation Rental Property Boating Permit, the opportunity to apply and purchase one. Mr. Yelton seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Members of the Board discussed getting with Mr. Breneman to let him know this decision.

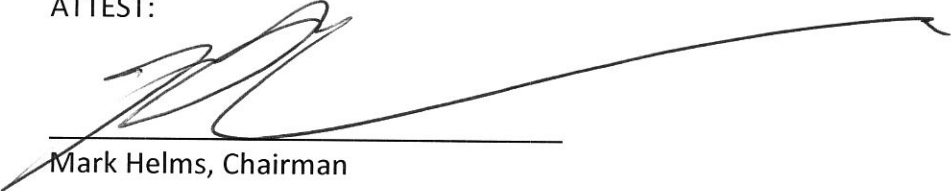
Adjournment

Mr. Yelton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. Ms. Ledford seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Minutes were transcribed by Kat Canant, Administrative Assistant to LLPD.

The next regular meeting of the Lake Advisory Board meeting will be May 6, 2019 at 3:30 pm.

ATTEST:



Mark Helms, Chairman