

Lake Lure Lake Advisory Board Regular Meeting

June 1, 2020

Call to Order

Chairman Mark Helms called to order the June 1, 2020 Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 3:30 p.m. at the Lake Lure Town Hall.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mr. Mark Helms, Chairman

Mr. Gary Hasenfus

Ms. Sonya Ledford

Mr. Gary Johnson

Mr. Michael Yelton, Vice Chairman

Mr. Bill Ashman

Mr. David Lusk

Town Council Members & Town Representatives present:

Council Liaison - Commissioner John Kilby

Mayor Carol Pritchett Commissioner Patrick Bryant Parks, Recreation & Lake Director Dean Givens

Commissioner Dave DiOrio Finance Director Sam Karr Town Manager Shannon Baldwin

Absent:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda for the June 1, 2020 Board Meeting was reviewed.

Chairman Helms proposed the a change in the order of Special Topic Discussions to allow Miss. Ledford to speak first for Tour Boat Operations, as well as add Finance Director Sam Karr to speak regarding the 2020-2021 Budget. Mr. Johnson made a Motion to accept the Agenda with changes. Mr. Lusk seconded the Motion and all members were in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes for the March 2, 2020 Board Meeting were reviewed. Mr. Ashman made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Lusk seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

Special Topic Discussions

Tour Boat Operations – Mr. Givens spoke of the complaints that were delivered to the Board in the past and felt that since the topic had been discussed in previous meetings that a reply was needed to be given to the group that had complained. There was discussion that of the complaints received, the tour boats had made some changes. It was also mentioned that both the LLPD and Mr. Givens had both watched the tour boats and other complaints were unfounded. Mr. Helms discussed that the rpm is not measurable. Mr. Helms asked that he and Mr. Givens get together to create a reply to the group that complained. Commissioner Kilby asked for them to bring it to the Marine Commission to be discussed at the next meeting.

2020-2021 Town Budget — Commissioner Kilby asked Mr. Karr to speak. Commissioner Kilby explained to the Board that the Town is seeking input from the Board to help cover a shortfall in the budget. Mr. Karr reviewed the budget and discussed that it is the desire of the Town Council to make the lake self-sustainable. Mr. Karr discussed tax rates and water and sewer rates as well as the needs of the Town. The Dam work and Sewer work was discussed. Commissioner Kilby asked for the Board's help in coming up with ideas and plans to make up the \$165k shortfall. Commissioner Kilby stated that he would like the Board to come up with revenue plans. The Board discussed permit fees and other revenue possibilities. Mr. Johnson asked for Mr. Givens to email the Board the current boat permit numbers for this year so they can discuss them at the next meeting. There was continued discussion regarding permits. Mr. Kilby thanked the Board for their work and assistance and looked forward to what ideas they could bring to the Town Council.

Boat Permits – this had already been discussed in the previous discussion and the members agreed to move on.

Mr. & Mrs. Lails Boat Permit – Mr. Givens reviewed the business of the Lails in that they now had done all the Board had suggested. They had purchased a home on the lake and were seeking approval to purchase a Livery Boat Permit. Mr. Givens suggested that they move hours from the Vacation Rentals to the Livery Boat Permits as the Vacation Rentals had already purchased permits for the year. There was a brief discussion. The Board agreed that the Lails had followed all suggestions to create their business for a Livery Boat.

Mr. Johnson made a Motion to Recommend the application of Mr. and Mrs. Lails Commercial Livery Boat Permit to the Marine Commission for approval. Mr. Ashman seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

Hour Meters on Vacation Rental Boats – Mr. Givens stated that the Marine Commission has asked the Lake Advisory Board to review the use of hour meters on Vacation Rentals. The Board discussed the use and the possible cost per boat of \$40 to purchase the meters. Mr. Givens suggested that a photo of the meter hours be brought with the application at the beginning of the year when the boat permit is purchased. There was discussion regarding keeping records quarterly. Mr. Yelton suggested an app that could be used. There was discussion regarding the use of meters on all boats. Mr. Yelton stated that most permits purchased by residents, were for boats that they used on Lake Lure, but also took the boat on other lakes as well. The meter would not be accurate for hours. There was continued discussion for the use of the meters on just the vacation rental boats and to ask for the meter photo

when permits were purchased. The Board seemed to agree on this. Mr. Kilby suggested blending this topic with the permit increases for the increase of revenue needed. The members agreed to continue the discussion at next month's meeting.

Open water swim in July: Lake Lure resident Ms. Mireille Aleman discussed plans for an open swim in the month of July. Coach Charlie was also present with her to ask for the Board's permission to use the beach area for an approximate 7 hour event. It was suggested that she get her entire plan together and go to the Chamber to help lead her in her request. It was also mentioned that between Memorial Day and Labor Day, it wouldn't be feasible to plan such an event as the Town is very busy as well as beach traffic and lake traffic. Ms. Aleman agreed to seek assistance from either Kay Dittmer (Olympiad) or Laura Doster Executive Director of the Chamber. The Board asked her to get with Mr. Givens who will email her final plan to the Board.

LAB Presentation and Discussion

Report from Lake Operations – Dean Givens

Mr. Givens reviewed his monthly report. Nothing further.

Report from Council Liaison

Mr. Kilby again thanked the Board for working on a revenue plan to bring to the Council. Nothing further.

Fishery & Ecosystem – Gary Hasenfus

Mr. Hasenfus reviewed with the Board the habitat plans. He stated the trees are still at the boat house and suggested getting with the LLFD to burn them being that they are no longer useful. Mr. Givens stated both his boats are out of commission. Mr. Hasenfus mentioned that the NC Wildlife was out to sample fish from the Lake and the good news is the Black Bass fishery is thriving in Lake Lure. A letter was read from NC Wildlife, which was very favorable.

Lake Structures - Gary Johnson

Mr. Johnson had nothing to report

Emergency Preparedness & Response -

Mr. Lusk reviewed his findings with the Board concerning temporary emergency shelter facilities. Since the Town Hall is in a flood plain and the LLFD is Command Center, he will be approaching LLCA. Nothing further.

Dredging & Watershed Stabilization – Michael Yelton

Mr. Yelton asked Mr. Givens about the dredging, which Mr. Givens replied dredging is ready to get started again. Mr. Givens also reviewed the issue with the trash boom when it failed this last month during heavy rains. It is now secured with two 1500pd anchors.

Water Quality - Bill Ashman

Mr. Ashman had nothing to report.

Regulations & Law Enforcement - Sonya Ledford

Ms. Ledford had left the meeting earlier and was unable to report.

Public Forum

There were no requests from the public.

Mr. Givens discussed with the Board the use of the open slips for rentals. The Board discussed the number of available slips now that the new ones are in place. The Board discussed the use of six of the 12 slips to be used for weekly rentals to guests. This would assist them in creating revenue as previously discussed in the meeting.

Chairman Helms made a Motion to Recommend to Council to use six boat slips (on a trial basis) for a minimum of four (4) day rental. Mr. Gary Johnson seconded the motion and all members were in favor. The Board Members suggested to Town Council a daily fee of \$25 for each slip, and all were in favor.

<u>Adjournment</u>

Mr. Johnson made a motion to adjourn the Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 5:28 p.m. Mr. Hasenfus seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

Minutes were transcribed by Kat Canant, Admin Assistant to LLPD. The next regular meeting of the Lake Advisory Board will be July 6, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Mark Helms, Chairman

Kat Canant, Board Clerk