



Lake Lure Lake Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
July 6, 2020

Call to Order

Chairman Mark Helms called to order the July 6, 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
Mr. David Lusk

Mr. Michael Yelton, Vice Chairman
Mr. Bill Ashman
Mr. Gary Johnson

Town Council Members & Town Representatives present:

Council Liaison - Commissioner John Kilby

Commissioner Dave DiOrio
Parks, Recreation & Lake Director Dean Givens
Parks, Recreation & Trails Coordinator Dana Bradley

Absent:

Ms. Sonya Ledford

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda for the July 6, 2020 Board Meeting was reviewed. **Mr. Ashman made a motion to approve the Agenda, Mr. Hasenfus seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes for the June 1, 2020 Board Meeting were reviewed. **Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Lusk seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

Special Topic Discussions

Lure of the Smokies – Mr. Givens reviewed the proposed plan sent by Ms. Mireille Aleman who addressed the members at the June 1 Board Meeting. The members took a moment to read the proposed plan. The event is planning on 400 swimmers to attend the event, which will have a long

range swim, either 5k or possibly 1 mile. It will be held at Rumbling Bald Resort. It was stated that Ms. Aleman and the event coordinator will be responsible for planning for all traffic coordination, EMS and Fire standby. There was a brief discussion regarding the event. Ms. Aleman stated she also had spoken to Lake Lure Inn about holding an event on the Beach Saturday evening. Mr. George Wittmer (owner of the Inn) stated that he knew nothing about this plan. Ms. Aleman mentioned she would follow this up. Ms. Aleman mentioned she also had asked for help through the Chamber for volunteers during the event. The Board discussed that all COVID-19 restrictions must be adhered during the event.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to recommend the event and send the request to Town Council for their approval. Mr. Hasenfus seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

Discussion of Projected Lake Fees for Self-Sustainability – Mr. Givens reviewed with the Board the chart of fees along with increases for the upcoming year. He reviewed that the LAB was tasked with coming up with a monetary plan to help make the Parks, Recreation and Lake Department self-sustainable. Ms. Bradley, the new Parks, Recreation and Trails Coordinator is in the process of applying for dredging grants. Mr. Givens reviewed dredging work that was completed in the past year as well as work needed for the following year.

Mr. Givens explained the maintenance in Town comes from the Parks, Recreation and Lake Department's budget. He mentioned that of the \$887,055 in his budget that \$425k was for dredging so that by finding grants this would offset that expense. Mr. Givens stated that projects that could not be matched with grants will be shelved. Commissioner Kilby mentioned to the Board the thorough planning that was done with this fiscal year's budget. There was continued discussion regarding the use of the Lake. There was discussion of other areas that the Town could be charging for use of. Mr. Hasenfus mentioned there should be a charge for use of the Cluster Moorings. There was continued discussion regarding the fees Mr. Givens was suggesting. It was mentioned that the Lake Use Fees had not been increased in two years.

The Board discussed infractions that continue to occur on the lake and inquired into the police patrolling. Mr. Givens reviewed the LLPD June End of Month Report which indicated numerous infractions on the lake as well as citations written. Mr. Givens explained that the administrators now have a tracking system to assure the infraction is corrected or that the fine is assessed and collected. The Board discussed numerous occasions where they've viewed non-motorized kayaks, canoes, paddle boards and large blow up rafts and paddle boards with no permits. Commissioner Kilby discussed that in order to police the entire lake more frequently would require more police, and this issue at hand is to increase what's coming in moneywise. There was an agreement of training needed for officers on the lake.

Mr. George Wittmer shared the remarks on Ms. Ledford as she was unable to attend the meeting. It was discussed that commercial users of the lake should bear the load as they make money for using the lake.

Mr. Yelton reviewed the Town's budget and suggested that cuts be made, including employee times and staff. He reviewed that he had seen businesses have to use the same measures recently.

There was continued discussion regarding Mr. Givens rate increase plan. Mr. Jeff Geisler of Rumbling Bald Resort, a member of the audience, voiced his opinion that if the Town continues to pass on increases to the customer, it could come to a point where running a business is no longer profitable. He suggested using caution when increasing the Lake Use Rates.

Commissioner Kilby felt that the discussion that ensued was good. He suggested the Board review the chart and work on what they felt was fair for rate increases. Mr. Helms reviewed categories that he felt needed an increase. Mr. Givens suggested he send out a workable chart so that the Board could enter their increases and it would show the final income increase for the Town.

There was a discussion concerning the Cluster Moorings, again stating that these 9 clusters should be charged for the use of a slip. The locations of the moorings were discussed and rates were discussed.

It was decided that the Board continue to work on the increases and bring them to the next meeting.

LAB Presentation and Discussion

Report from Lake Operations – Dean Givens

Mr. Givens reviewed his monthly report and formally introduced Dana Bradly and explained her new position and where she will be helping in the Town. There was nothing further.

Mr. Helms asked the Board to review ski boats with V-drives. He felt they should have a different permit. There was discussion that these boats cause more damage to sea walls and shorelines. It was also mentioned that the larger tri-pontoon boats do the same. It was discussed the danger these boat drivers were causing due to speed on the lake and the time it took to go back and retrieve a skier or tuber was dangerous. It was agreed that this topic would be tabled until the next Board meeting.

Report from Council Liaison

Mr. Kilby felt the Board was headed in a good direction. He had nothing further to add.

Fishery & Ecosystem – Gary Hasenfus

Mr. Hasenfus stated that on June 17th the State added Threadfin Shad to the Lake. NC Wildlife had been out on the lake taking samples. They were looking for invasive species and found none, which was very good news. It was discussed that lakes can be taken over by the Alabama Bass, an invasive species which the State found none in Lake Lure. The final report should be in and he will bring it to the next meeting.

Lake Structures – Gary Johnson

Mr. Johnson had nothing to report

Emergency Preparedness & Response –

Mr. Lusk updated the Board with his findings concerning temporary emergency shelter facilities.

Dredging & Watershed Stabilization – Michael Yelton

Mr. Yelton confirmed with Mr. Givens there was no current dredging projects.

Water Quality – Bill Ashman

Mr. Ashman had nothing to report. It was duly noted by Mr. Helms that this was Mr. Ashman's last Board meeting. Accolades were given for the time he has dedicated to the Board over many years.

Regulations & Law Enforcement – Sonya Ledford

Ms. Ledford was absent

Public Forum

Mr. Wittmer confirmed with Mr. Givens that the C/O for the new Water Walk including the fire suppression was completed on July 1.

A member of the audience who stated he was over the Lake Front Homeowners Association discussed the increases that were mentioned during the meeting.

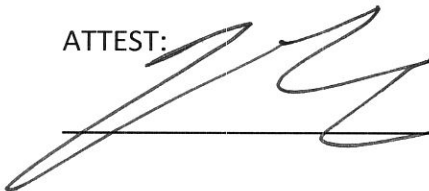
Adjournment

Mr. Ashman made a motion to adjourn the Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 5:00 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 August 3, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST:



Mark Helms, Chairman



Kat Canant, Board Clerk