



Lake Lure Lake Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
August 3, 2020

Call to Order

Chairman Mark Helms called to order the August 3, 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. Gary Johnson

Mr. Michael Yelton, Vice Chairman
Ms. Sonja Ledford

Town Council Members & Town Representatives present:

Council Liaison - Commissioner John Kilby

Commissioner Dave DiOrio
Parks, Recreation & Trails Coordinator Dana Bradley

Absent:

Mr. David Lusk

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda for the August 3, 2020 Board Meeting was reviewed. **Mr. Johnson 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 July 6, 2020 Board Meeting were reviewed. **Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Hasenfus seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

Special Topic Discussions

Lure of the Smokies – Ms. Bradley advised the Board that the event had made changes since the last LAB meeting. Ms. Bradley reviewed the event and the logistics as well as advised that the venue had changed and it would now take place on the Lake Lure Beach. Ms. Bradley mentioned all COVID-19 precautions would be in place. The event dates will be September 11th through 13th.

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.

Updates on Lake Patrols and Enforcement – Chief Sean Humphries read a memo that addressed new training that officers will be receiving as well as manpower and patrol hours. He addressed that he will be bringing in more reserves to help cover weekends as there is more road traffic in town and it would be difficult to pull a street patrol officer off to patrol the lake. The Board appreciated his efforts and inquired about NC Wildlife help, in which Chief Humphries stated that he has already approached them in regards to helping, which they've agreed to put more hours on Lake Lure. There was further discussion in regards to Warnings and Citations that can be written to fine those that don't have permits, this included non-motorized crafts (wake boards, kayaks, etc.) that visitors are bringing to the lake. There was discussion regarding putting two officers in a boat to help with sighting infractions and securing boats when stopped. Chief Humphries mentioned manpower is an issue which is the reason for using reserves. A Ride-A-Long program was suggested by Gary Johnson and Chief Humphries mentioned there had been a program that used those that were interested in becoming officers. Chief Humphries further explained Civil and State Citations and which monies would come back to the Town. NC Wildlife can only enforce state laws. Commissioner Kilby felt good about NC Wildlife helping.

Discussion of request from Lake Lure Tours regarding change of Tour Boat to Livery – Mr. George Wittmer spoke to the Board in regards to Lake Lure Tours cancelling a Tour Boat Permit and purchasing a Livery Boat Permit. He cited that with the COVID-19 issues, customers are not wanting a tour in as much as renting a private boat for lake activity. There was discussion regarding this change and that the Lake Model allowed for this change. Mr. Wittmer state that they will sell 90HP boat and purchase a 60HP boat for the Livery Permit.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to recommend to the Town Council the change of Lake Lure Tours giving up a Tour Boat Permit and obtaining a Livery Permit. Mr. Hasenfus seconded the motion and all members were in favor. Ms. Ledford recused herself from the vote due to her employment with Lake Lure Tours.

Discuss Projected Lake Fees for Self-Sustainability – Mark Helms opened the discussion by reviewing Board Member David Lusk's letter to the Board regarding his thoughts for rate/permit increases. Mr. Helms led the discussion going through each category of permits on a worksheet. Rate increases were discussed and the Board agreed that non-resident permits could stand the larger increase due to residents paying taxes to the Town of Lake Lure. There was discussion regarding the Cluster Moorings throughout Town. It was mentioned that a new count needed to take place to have an accurate total. Each category was discussed thoroughly and a discussion ensued regarding some categories in the Model that could be deleted.

After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Helms reviewed what increases the Board felt good with. He felt he wanted to revisit those again, as well as for the Board to continue to look at the categories that they were having issues with agreeing on the increase.

A couple of the audience members voiced their opinions with the increases and felt good with the discussion, however wanted the Board to look at higher increases occurring with non-resident permits. The Board discussed these comments.

There was discussion regarding V-hulls and Tri-toon boats as well as putting a limit on the HP of these engines and increasing permit cost for these types of boats due to the damage they can cause on the lake.

Commissioner Kilby mentioned that he is hoping the Board can decide on these increases sooner than later as there is planning that needs to take place. There was discussion of waiting until the next meeting when Mr. Dean Givens would be present to give his thoughts into the increases, and this thought was favored among Board Members. Commissioner Kilby felt the Board was close to a final decision and offered his appreciation into the work the Board had put forth thus far. He did agree to higher permit cost and HP limits and mentioned there would be those that would have to be grandfathered in.

Mr. Helms reviewed the increases again with the Board and asked them to be thinking about the categories where there was agreement issues, as well as categories that could be eliminated. Mr. Helms reminded the Board that what they came up as a final, would be a *recommendation* to the Marine Commission for the 2021 Permits.

There was further discussion regarding Cluster Moorings and as to whether or not this was an area to discussing fees or not.

The Board agreed to meet again before the next Marine Commission meeting. A date of August 31st at 3:30 was agreed upon. The Board decided that in lieu of this meeting, the September meeting could be cancelled and asked the recording clerk to make those arrangements.

Discuss Old Gate Hoist repurpose – Commissioner Kilby mentioned the old gate hoist that has been replaced. The fact of it being a historical piece of Lake Lure he felt that it could be repurposed. There was mention of putting by Town Hall or by the fountain in front of the Arcade Building. The Board agreed that the fountain location would be a good idea. Commissioner Kilby would pass this on for discussion at the next Town Council Meeting.

Review and Recommend an Applicant for the Board to Town Council – Commissioner Kilby asked the Board if they have ever had to recommend anyone before in which the Board agreed they had not. This matter was cancelled and no decision was made.

LAB Presentation and Discussion

Report from Lake Operations – Ms. Dana Bradley

Ms. Bradley reviewed the Parks, Recreation, and Lake July 30th Report with the Board. She also mentioned that signs have been ordered that will be erected throughout town such as the areas for non-motorized launching.

Report from Council Liaison

Commissioner Kilby had nothing further to add.

Fishery & Ecosystem – Gary Hasenfus

Mr. Hasenfus mentioned that they are researching on stocking the lake with Blue Gill next year and mentioned they want to see more 'pan fish' in the lake. This would happen sometime in March.

Lake Structures – Gary Johnson

Mr. Johnson had nothing to report

Emergency Preparedness & Response –

Mr. Lusk was absent however mentioned in his memo to the Board that there was nothing to report.

Dredging & Watershed Stabilization – Michael Yelton

Mr. Yelton confirmed there was no dredging being done on the lake currently.

Regulations & Law Enforcement – Sonya Ledford

Ms. Ledford had nothing to add.

Public Forum

Commissioner DeOrio wanted to make a suggestion to Chief Humphries that they could have volunteers drive the police boat which would allow the officers to be more efficient focusing on writing citations. He mentioned the extra set of eyes could help in pointing out infractions. He would like the Chief to explore this idea

Adjournment

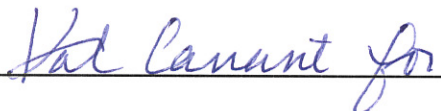
Mr. Hasenfus made a motion to adjourn the Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 5:48 p.m. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

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

A Special Meeting for the Lake Advisory Board will be August 31, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Lake Advisory Board will be October 5, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

 Mark Helms, Chairman

 Kat Canant, Board Clerk



Lake Lure Police Department
Chief Sean Humphries
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TO: LAKE ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

FROM: POLICE CHIEF SEAN HUMPHRIES,
PARKS, RECREATION & LAKE DIRECTOR DEAN GIVENS

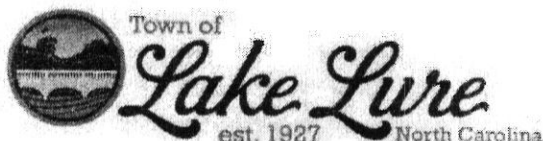
DATE: JULY 30, 2020

RE: LAKE PATROL AND ENFORCEMENT

Lake Patrol Initiatives

- **Training-** We have set up two separate dates in mid-August for additional training for both our Full Time officers as well as our reserve officers. We were going to have this training prior to the beginning of the season, but the covid pandemic forced us to postpone the training. This training will be conducted by Lake Director Dean Givens as well as members of the North Carolina Wildlife Commission. This training will consist of a refresher and an overview of lake ordinances as well as tactics which can be utilized to aid the officer in locating violations. Our plans are to conduct this class every spring prior to the beginning of the season going forward in an effort to refresh the officers on what is expected of the officers during the season.
- **Manpower/patrol hours-** This is the most difficult area to enhance, taking into account the small size of our department, of which at any given time we have at the most 2 officers on duty and they still have to patrol and cover calls on the road. I have directed the Sergeants to utilize their officers on the Lake as much as possible which has resulted in more patrol hours on the lake from full time officers.

I have a staff of reserve officers which we utilize for lake patrol and to enhance their efforts I have added an additional reserve officer to our roster in the past month and I am currently working on adding 2 more reserve officers which should give me greater flexibility in covering the lake more hours of the week with reserve officers. I am currently working on a schedule with two reserve officers in an effort to bring them in during times where it is unexpected to see an officer on the lake, such as early in the morning, prior to 7am and later at night, after 9pm.



In addition to this I have reached out to Lieutenant Dan Vogel of NC Wildlife in an effort to recruit his organization into patrolling the lake more often, which will only add to the amount of time that the lake has a uniformed officer patrolling. Lieutenant Vogel is more than willing to assist us and has actually sent me a schedule of when he will have one of his officers on the lake.

As well, Lake Director Dean Givens told me that with the addition of Dana Bradley, he believes he will be freed up to patrol the lake more. In addition to this he has told me that he is sending Dana Bradley to Law Enforcement School, which at the completion of the school will allow her to patrol and enforce lake violations.





Dean Givens; Parks, Recreation, and Lake Director

DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation, and Lake

REPORT DATE:

July 30, 2020

PREPARED FOR:

Town Manager

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Boardwalk/Marina Project Completed

I. FOLLOW UP

II. OTHER

PR&TC ACTIVITIES:

1. Checked Buffalo Creek Park, Dittmer-Watts, and Weed Patch for damage
2. Installed new picnic table at Buffalo Creek Park
3. Led Buffalo Creek Park workday on 7/14 to loosen trail markers and repair some erosion issues
4. Led Weed Patch Mountain Trail workday on 7/17 to loosen trail markers and remove several trees
5. Led Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail workday on 7/21 to remove a beaver dam and repair damaged trail
6. Planned upcoming trail maintenance days and recruited volunteers to help
7. Scouted a section of the Luremont Trail with Martin Watts
8. Worked with Destination by Design on Boys Camp Road project
9. Completed new signage for the boat docks, marina, and boardwalk
10. Installed trail counter for Flowering Bridge
11. Worked on landscaping plan for new boardwalk
12. Worked on naming rights policy
13. Checked trails counters at BCP, Weed Patch, Dittmer-Watts Nature Preserve, and the Flowering Bridge
14. Completed paperwork for new AmeriCorps member, Bailly Hornstein
15. Continued working on the dredging grant
16. Worked on creating a Boat Patrol Safety presentation
17. Collected water samples
18. Attended several meetings

P&R Maintenance Activities:

1. Performed regular ground maintenance activities at all areas.
2. Worked on lake debris clean-up
3. Cleaned parks, boat ramp, and marina
4. Mowed amphitheater twice a week
5. Took mower for repairs
6. Placed extra trash cans around town for July 4th weekend
7. Installed new picnic table at Buffalo Creek Park
8. Weed-eated Mulberry Trail at Dittmer-Watts
9. Pruned shrubs blocking drivers views at Hwy. 9
10. Began working on day lilies in Morse Park

Lake Activities:

1. Boat maintenance
2. Boathouse Maintenance
3. Lake debris clean-up
4. Buoy replacement/maintenance
5. Worked with Hydro/Dam on walkway repairs