



Lake Lure Lake Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
Via ZOOM
April 5, 2021

Call to Order

Chairman Mark Helms called to order the April 5, 2021 Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 3:30 p.m. on ZOOM Meeting Venue

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mr. Mark Helms, Chairman
Mr. David Lusk
Mr. Ken Golliher

Mr. Michael Yelton, Vice Chairman
Ms. Sonya Ledford
Mr. Bill Bay

Absent:

Mr. Gary Hasenfus

Town Council Members & Town Representatives present:

Council Liaison - Commissioner John Kilby
Parks, Recreation & Lake Director Dean Givens

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda for the April 5, 2021 Board Meeting was reviewed. **Mr. Golliher made a motion to approve the Agenda, Mr. Lusk seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes for the March 1, 2021 Board Meeting were reviewed. **Ms. Ledford made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Golliher seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

Special Topics

Request from Mr. Bo Proctor for 1-2 "No Wake" Buoys

Mr. Bo Proctor addressed the Board with a layout of the placement of buoys in the river area by his home. He asked that the Board allow for one to two more as the placement of the current buoys are not addressing an area where boats are coming into the river area. Mr. Givens mentioned that due to storms and the dredging, the current buoys are most likely off position and when he returns from vacation he will map the buoys and make sure they're in the correct position. He will look at that area and review Mr. Proctor's request and bring his findings back to the Board. This was agreeable to Mr. Proctor. Mr. Givens asked that the topic be placed on the May Agenda.

Upcoming Boat Show

Mr. Givens reviewed the plans for the Lake Lure Spring Classic Boat and Auto Show on May 14th and 15th. The summary (attached) was reviewed which asked for waivers and the alcohol and peddling ordinance to be lifted. Ms. Ledford mentioned there would be no boat parade. There are currently 19 boats registered. The dock can hold 24.

Mr. Bill Bay made a motion to recommend to the Marine Commission to grant the waivers and lift the ordinances requested for the boat and auto show on May 14th and 15th, 2021. Mr. Lusk seconded the motion and all board members were in favor.

Discuss and make a recommendation to the Marine Commission regarding Wake Boats, Wake surfing and the use of ballast systems

Commissioner Moore addressed the Board and ask that they come up with a recommendation regarding the use of wake boats in the lake. He mentioned that due to the boats becoming more and more popular that they should be address for us in Lake Lure. Commissioner Moore stated that Lake Lure was not wide enough for wake surfing. He reviewed how the boats can make their selves heavier which will cause a wake behind them. There was discussion regarding the widest width of the lake which was anywhere between 500ft to 600ft. There was discussion that the large wake may cause damage to the fish habitat. It was discussed that the problem was not necessarily the boat, but the operation of the vessel. There was continued discussion. It was mentioned that any boat can make themselves heavy and make the same type wake.

Commissioner Kilby stated that after hearing the Board's discussion, there was a lot for them to consider and felt that if it the topic was not address it most likely would get out of hand. Mr. Givens addressed the shoreline and sea wall that residents complain get tore up, however he mentioned that that issue is not just from the wake boats, but other boats as well. Mr. Yelton read a handout that the state gives out concerning wake boarding in lakes and suggest staying 200ft from shoreline. In this handout it also suggested to minimize repetitive action in the same areas. Mr. Yelton asked how could anyone actually say what boats are responsible for damage to the shoreline. He mentioned that if you own lake front property, that's something you took on to be responsible for your shoreline. It was also discussed that there have been no boating injuries due to skiing, riding on a wake or other recreational activities on the lake.

Mr. Helms stated that there were currently 20 “V Drives” on the lake. He stated he did like the staying 200ft away from shorelines. There was continued discussion. Mr. Yelton suggested that banning V Hulls would not solve shoreline problems. The Board continued the discussion concentrating on boater safety.

Several Lake Lure Residents addressed the Board in favor of V Drive boats and wake surfing.

Mr. Chris Jackson stated that the safest place for waters sports, is behind the boat and stated that the maximum speed he drives his V Hull is 11mph. He felt it was unfair to single out a boat, and felt that the tour boats cause the greatest wake when they’re loaded. He felt current restrictions in place should be enforced on the lake.

Mr. Darren Blum suggested the boat is not the issue but the way people are using them. He also suggested the tour boats cause the greatest wakes. He owns a lake front property and understands damage to the land is his to repair. He suggested that tubing is one of the most dangerous water sports.

Mr. Brad Mark felt that wake boats don’t hurt the lake or shore any more than other boats do. He suggested that adding all the new boat docks that brought more boats onto the lake was a danger in that it added much more traffic to the lake. He felt that adding those was more about the revenue instead of concern for the lake.

Mr. Michael Harris mentioned he has been a resident for 49 years and stated that the wake will always be a problem for Lake Lure. He also suggested the tour boats cause large wakes and felt traffic and safety was now an issue due to the new docks.

Ms. Ledford mentioned to the Board that since COVID, the Lake Lure Tours has not been running at full capacity and the max they put on a boat is 14 people. She mentioned that the slower the boat runs, the more wake is pushed.

There was continued discussion regarding creating rules for operation. It was suggested by Commissioner Kilby that the LAB have a workshop to work all the issues out. Mr. Helms agreed. The Board agreed that a decision needed to be made before more were purchased to go on the lake.

Mr. Givens mentioned Lake Oswego, a lake that he has compared to Lake Lure, banned any kind of ballast and if once was already owned by a resident, the ballast was to be disabled by a local mechanic.

The Board continued with discussion and agreed that a recommendation needed to be made for the upcoming Marine Commission. Fine tuning of anything could come later.

Mr. Bill Bay made a motion to recommend to the Marine Commission to restrict wake boats for non-residents and to limit wake surfing 200’ from the shore line and structures. Mr. Lusk seconded the motion and all board members were in favor.

Review the Amendment of Lake Use Regulations

Mr. Givens had previously emailed the Board an updated Lake Use Regulations. Mr. Givens mentioned that the Lake Use Regulations had no additions but was merely an edit of the language and spelling.

Ms. Sonya Ledford made a motion to accept the Lake Use Regulations as revised. Mr. Lusk seconded the motion and all board members were in favor.

Report from Lake Operations – Mr. Dean Givens

Mr. Givens reviewed the report he had sent the Board. He discussed that the dredging will continue until the end of the month and they will begin in the fall in the main channel. Mr. Yelton asked about the debris boom gate that was removed and if there was a way to put it back and to modify it. Mr. Givens reviewed the use of the gate and that it had to be removed. He mentioned that the gate was too heavy and was causing an issue. He explained the way the full boom worked and felt that the use of the gate was a hindrance. Mr. Givens also mentioned that the dredging contractor is moving the pipes that are in the river area by the creek. He said this area will be cleaned up so residents could use the creek area.

Report from Council Liaison – Commissioner John Kilby

Commissioner Kilby thanked the Board for the good discussion. He updated information regarding the lake draw down and that there was nothing confirmed about exact dates. Mr. Yelton inquired about the Dam repair. Commissioner Kilby stated that the sewer would be the first issue to be addressed.

Fishery & Ecosystem – Mr. Gary Hasenfus

Mr. Hasenfus was absent however Mr. Helms reviewed a letter that he had received from Mr. Hasenfus wherein it was mentioned that 20,000 threadfin shad were put into the lake on March 25th. The trees will be put into the lake to create a habitat, as time becomes available to do so. Mr. Hasenfus received information from the State that the lake has been “invaded” with spotted bass. There was discussion about the spotted bass. Mr. Yelton mentioned they have different markings and smaller mouths but wasn’t sure of any danger they may cause to the lake or other fish.

Emergency Preparedness & Response – Mr. David Lusk

Mr. Lusk mentioned that the School Board is talking to the Fire Department to use the Gymnasium as a shelter.

Dredging & Watershed Stabilization – Mr. Michael Yelton

Mr. Yelton had to leave the meeting early.

Regulations & Law Enforcement – Ms. Sonya Ledford

Ms. Ledford stated that she has observed at the boat docks, people putting their boats on the lake with no permits. Her staff has approached some but the boaters have no regard and continue to launch their boats.

Mr. Lusk made a motion to adjourn the Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 5:24 p.m. Ms. Ledford 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 May 3, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Kat Canant for Mark Helms Mark Helms, Chairman

Kat Canant Kat Canant, Board Clerk