

Town of Lake Lure - Lake Advisory Board

- Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting -

The Lake Advisory Board held their regular monthly meeting at the Town of Lake Lure Municipal Center on Monday the 7th day of July, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Chris Braund (chairperson)
Bo Williams (vice-chair)
Harvey Harris
Gary Hasenfus
Bob Keith
Robin Proctor
Dean Givens (DLO)

Non-Attending Members:

Wiley Bourne
Jeanine Noble (Council Liaison)

Guests:

Blaine Cox
John Cloud

General Meeting Actions:

- Chairperson Chris Braund called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.
- After discussion, Harvey Harris made a motion, seconded by Bob Keith, to approve the minutes of the June 2008 regular meeting as written. The vote of approval was unanimous.
- See below for individual reports
- Bo Williams made a move to adjourn the meeting at 7:22p.m., seconded by Gary Hasenfus. The vote of approval was unanimous.

Public Forum:

- John Cloud suggested that we consider making a recommendation that all businesses renting kayaks and/or canoes, purchase only red or orange boats so they can be more visible on the lake. John also suggested that all persons renting kayaks and/or canoes be advised to stay on the sides of the lake as opposed to the middle of the "big water".

Individual Meeting Reports and Actions:**Director of Lake Operations – Dean Givens reported:**

- Dean advised that he would like to see something implemented requiring kayaks and/or canoes (and any other non-motorized boats) to operate only in "No Wake" zones, unless crossing a channel to get to the other side. It was suggested that this could be accomplished with better education and/or orientation by property management companies when renting homes.
- 40 fish habitats have been built and placed in the lake and plans are to continue to build more.
- The construction of the new boat slips by the Beach will be complete in approximately 2 weeks.
- The next boat slips will be constructed by the Police Dept. Boathouse if approved by LAB, the Marine Commission, the Town Council & Rutherford County. Motion was made by Bo Williams, and seconded by Robin Proctor that the Lake Advisory Board recommends that the town proceed with Police Boathouse dock expansion project as designed. The vote of approval was unanimous.
- Dean has a new cell phone number that he will answer whenever he is on duty: 828-447-7430. This number can be given out to other people so that Dean can be contacted. However, if you have an emergency, don't wait to see if Dean will answer the cell phone, call 911.
- Regarding the three "no permit" citations being presently being appealed to the Marine Commission, Bo Williams made a motion, seconded by Gary Hasenfus, that the Lake Advisory

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Board supports the issuance of the three “no permit” citations under appeal and recommends to the Marine Commission a denial of the appeals.

- supports the citations as issued. The vote of approval was unanimous. Chris will communicate the Board’s recommendation to the Marine Commission.
- Dredging is complete in the river. Water quality in the lake is good; there is however, a potential for algae bloom due to high temperatures, the drought season and run-off going into the lake. The jelly blobs are back and appear to be eating the algae.
- A letter was sent to Kenneth Appling of Greystone Manor on 07/07/08 (“Return Receipt Requested”) pertaining to renters pulling tubers on the back of the livery pontoon boat. Dean read the letter to the Board advising him that continued violation could result in boat permit being pulled and/or a permit request for the 2009 season being denied.
- Dean informed the Board that he and his family now reside in Lake Lure on Jack London Road.
- Patrol Statistics (DLO)
 - There was a boat accident (due to a boat malfunction) at the Robert’s boathouse on Neighborly Drive. No one was injured, as the driver of the boat jumped out prior to impact with the boathouse.
 - There were 2 boats that sank over the holiday weekend. Fuel spillage was cleaned up. (Robin Proctor asked if there was anything in place requiring boat owners to repay the Police Dept. and/or Fire Dept. for clean up spillage after a boat accident or a boat sinking)
 - Dean assisted the EMS 4 times and the Police Dept. 2 times at the Beach & assisted Lake Lure Tours with one missing boat after the storm.
 - 3 citations for no boat permit
 - 2 “No Wake” citations
 - 2 citations for child under 13 without a PFD
 - Assisted 2 stranded boats
 - 63 lake patrols
 - 663 cove checks
 - 17 safety checks
 - 16 boat permit checks
 - 1 verbal warning
 - A truck rolled off hill into the lake at Rumbling Bald Resort
- John Cloud asked if there presently was any scuba diving certification required or in place for the Lake Patrol and mentioned that he knew of several citizens who have diving certifications. Dean Givens indicated that he will be pursuing a diving certificate after he completes his EMT Certification. Dean mentioned that he would like to have a list of all those in Lake Lure who are already certified scuba divers.
- The town website has been updated with aquatic life information and photos (see under Departments, Lake Operations)

Town Council / Marine Commission Liaison – Jeanine Noble reported:

- No report

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Emergency Preparedness & Response – Bob Keith reported:

- No Report

[from a report submitted prior to the meeting:]

- The end of June and early July produced some interesting events on the lake for which the fireboat was used.
 - There was a house fire (nothing serious) near Larkins when a huge tree fell across 64/74A in the heavy wind storm on some power lines which arced over to the house.
 - A truck rolled into the lake at the Rumbling Bald Resort. Only minor oil and grease appeared, probably off the transmission. The truck was easily pulled from the lake.
 - A ski boat collided with a dock near Neighborly Drive when a driver lost control and caused a minor fuel spill. Driver and skier were OK.
 - On 7/4, a boat sank at Lake Lure Village Resort. The fireboat assisted in raising the boat..
 - On 7/5, a boat sank off Thomas Drive. The owner was able to raise the boat.
 - All petroleum spills were contained with floating booms and subsequently absorbed chemically.

Dredging & Watershed Stabilization – Harvey Harris reported:

- On June 13, 2008 Jennifer Beck announced her resignation as Watershed Coordinator for the Upper Broad River Watershed Protection Program. Willis Miller, retired NRCS District Conservationist, will fill this vacancy on a part-time basis.
- The Upper Broad River Watershed Protection Committee decided not to expand watershed boundaries downstream. They're still looking at the storm water impact on the lake.

Commercial & Recreational - Bo Williams reported:

- One waterslide at the beach has been shut down due to the low water level.
- The group discussed the significant problems caused by the growing amount of geese in the area. By last count, over 60 geese have established residence rather than migrating north. That's approximately 30 pounds of fecal deposits each day, as each goose is responsible for up to ½ pound per day. Robin Proctor made a 2-part motion, seconded by Harvey Harris, that the Lake Advisory Board recommends (1) that the Town Council consider banning the feeding of all waterfowl by residents and/or tourists on town property in an effort to eventually eliminate the geese problem, and (2) that the town should look into solutions for long-term geese control. The vote of approval was unanimous.

Fishery & Ecosystem – Gary Hasenfus reported:

- Gary provided the Board Members with a handout he prepared on "Fish & Ecology" dated July 1, 2008. After thoroughly reviewing the handout & much discussion, Gary made a motion that was seconded by Robin Proctor, that the Lake Advisory Board recommends amendment of the fishing regulations (size and creel limits) in section 1.02 of the Lake Use Regulations to match the default statewide fishing regulations. The motion passed unanimously.
- Since 1999/2000, Lake Lure has maintained unique fishing regulations that have been reflected in the state fishing and hunting regulations digest. After extensively meetings on this topic with

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Blue Ridge Ecological (fishery consultants) and Wildlife Resource Commission officials, there is consensus that it is no longer beneficial for Lake Lure to maintain more restrictive fishing regulations than the state. For health of the fishery, increased fish harvesting is recommended—including the harvest of smaller gamefish.

The Board recommends amending section 1.02 as follows:

1.02 LIMITS ON NUMBERS AND SIZE OF FISH CAUGHT

Fishing in Lake Lure is governed by North Carolina state regulations, enacted and published by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

Bass: A limit of 5 per day, per person (total bass). May include 2 largemouth less than minimum size and 2 smallmouth less than minimum size

Largemouth Bass must be no less than 14 inches long
Smallmouth Bass must be no less than 12 inches long

Crappie: A limit of 20 per day, per person; all must be no less than 8 inches long

Trout: Lake Lure is classified by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission as an “Undesignated Water”. For mountain trout, there is no size limit or bait restriction. There is no closed season and no trout fishing license is required. The daily creel limit for trout is 7 fish.

If the regulations are amended, then a letter outlining these changes should be sent to the Wildlife Resources Commission. If received by July 19th, the changes can be reflected in the next printing of the state regulations digest. From the state’s perspective, the new regulations will go into effect on July 1, 2009.

Lake Structures – Wiley Bourne reported:

- No Report

Dam & Sewer Operations, Water Quality – Robin Proctor reported:

- No Report

Regulations & Law Enforcement - Chris Braund reported:

- Chris distributed a document for Board members to review—that contained policy recommendations on public docks, ramps & signage. The Board will review these recommendations in detail at the next regular meeting.

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Other Business

- Robin Proctor mentioned that the Lake Advisory Board meetings are no longer appearing on the calendar issued in the monthly town newsletter. Chris said that he would look into that and get it corrected.

Recap of Motions Passed:

- The Lake Advisory Board recommends to the Town Council that the town proceed with Police Boathouse dock expansion project as designed.
- The Lake Advisory Board supports the issuance of the three “no permit” citations under appeal and recommends to the Marine Commission a denial of the appeals.
- The Lake Advisory Board recommends to the Town Council (1) that the town consider banning the feeding of all waterfowl by residents and/or tourists on town property in an effort to eventually eliminate the geese problem, and (2) that the town should look into solutions for long-term geese control.
- The Lake Advisory Board recommends to the Marine Commission the amendment of the fishing regulations (size and creel limits) in section 1.02 of the Lake Use Regulations to match the default statewide fishing regulations.

Open Action Items:

Open Actions	Owner	Update
Make recommendations on where short-term docking should be permissible on town property (e.g., near the gazebo?) and parking time limitations, definition of public docking. (3/08)	Chris	Recommendations prepared and distributed to the LAB members. Will review at the September meeting.
Convene an LAB subcommittee to meet with town attorneys and town council with the purposed of developing grandfathering provisions for the Lake Structures regulations. (3/08)	Chris	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awaiting scheduling of this workshop
Prepare draft Standard Operating Procedures manual chapters for each area of responsibility. (3/08)	All LAB members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Templates provided (March)
Prepare and submit the draft Lake Advisory Committee bylaws for review and approval by the town council/marine commission. (1/08)	Chris	

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Closed Actions	Owner	Update
Draft an initial version of committee member responsibilities [by area] (12/07)	Chris	Distributed to all Board members, included in draft Charter/Bylaws
Work with town staff and police department to communicate the elimination of the winter catch & release period. (12/07)	Gary	Done
Request support from town staff in preparing minutes from tape recordings of LAC meetings. (1/08)	Chris	Done
Provide standard operating procedures templates to each member for their area of responsibility. (2/08)	Chris	Done
Obtain signage for the non-motorized boat launch ramp near the ABC store. (1/08)	Bo & Dean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Just need to add "LL boat permit required" language
Prepare a letter to the LAB & Marine Commission on his problems with Todd's RV & Marine. (5/08)	Dean	Done
Communicate to Ron Morgan and the fireboat crew the sensitivity to the wake generated by the fireboat...for other boaters, lakefront properties. They should make every effort possible to minimize high-speed runs near other boats. (6/08)	Bob	Done
Identify the language needed to clarify the "annual" on the annual boat permits and in the guide to lake rules. (3/08)	Dean & Chris	Done

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Open Recommendations to the Council / Marine Commission:

Recommendation	Date	Status
The Lake Advisory Board recommends that the town install a channel through the peninsula that separates the beach area from the mouth of Pool Creek.	May 2008	
The Lake Advisory Board recommends that Town Council consider re-naming the Town Marina to the Washburn Marina in honor of the Washburn Family and their service to Lake Lure.	June 2008	Done Next action: new signage
The Lake Advisory Board recommends to the Town Council (1) that the town consider banning the feeding of all waterfowl by residents and/or tourists on town property in an effort to eventually eliminate the geese problem, and (2) that the town should look into solutions for long-term geese control.	July 2008	
The Lake Advisory Board recommends to the Marine Commission the amendment of the fishing regulations (size and creel limits) in section 1.02 of the Lake Use Regulations to match the default statewide fishing regulations.	July 2008	

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Messer
Administrative Assistant