



Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2011

Call to order

Board Chairman Ed Dittmer called the regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:30pm on November 3, 2011

Roll Call

- **Board Members Present:** Ed Dittmer, Diane Barrett, Bill Miller, Larry Czajkowski, Chuck Watkins,
- **Board Members Absent:** Martyn Watts, Todd Dunnuck
- **Town Officials Present:** Parks & Recreation Supervisor Melody Potter, Town Planner Suzy Smoyer, Environmental Management Officer Clint Calhoun

Approval of Agenda and Minutes from last meeting

Meeting agenda was reviewed. Motion was made to accept the agenda by Chuck Watkins, seconded by Larry Czajkowski, and the motion was passed.

The minutes from the October 6, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Bill Miller made the motion to accept the minutes; seconded by Chuck Watkins and the motion was passed.

Open Issues

1. Adoption of recommended revision to Lake Lure Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan – Ed reviewed the proposed changes to the plan. (See changes dated November 2011 which was handed out at this meeting). The motion to accept the changes to the Lake Lure Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan document, was made by Bill Miller, seconded by Diane Barrett, and approved. Ed will forward changes to Town Clerk for consideration by Town Council at their December meeting.

Information Items – *Open Issues were tabled briefly for an information update*

Sanctioned Volksmarch route in Lake Lure – Jim and Janet Walters were present to update the Board on the sanctioned Volksmarch walk in the Lake Lure area. The walk is a series of routes that take you through the Lake Lure and Chimney Rock Town and Village Center areas. Total distance is 10K and is a route that was developed by the Walters and is supported by the Asheville Amblers Walking Club and sanctioned by the American Volkssport Association (AVA). The kickoff walk event begins January 2, 2012. Registration will be at the Visitor's Center.

Open Issues – cont.

2. Status of planning for extension of Town Center Walkway under NCDOT Safe Routes to School Grant Program – Suzy Smoyer discussed the \$100,000 NCDOT grant that is being applied for to extend the walkway to Lake Lure Classical Academy. Things are moving along as planned, with Tim Turner of WNC Engineering and Surveying taking the lead. Discussion was made regarding the route path and how it would be constructed.

3. Status of planning for “Northern Parkland – Buffalo Creek Park” – Suzy Smoyer updated the planning efforts with Trail Dynamics. Cost was discussed. Cost verses the actual monies available are just off by approximately \$3k. Discussion was made regarding the town staff members providing GPS mapping to cut down the expense. Chris Braund is negotiating with Trail Dynamics. Suzy discussed the other grants she’s working on as well as a Power Point program she’s designed to help obtain Letters of Support from groups such as the CMLC, Chimney Rock State Park, ROC, RBR, and the Town of Lake Lure. These letters are needed for the grant application.

4. Status of planning for potential trail system in Luremont area of Town Center – Ed and Suzy led the discussion on recent planning to provide an additional hiking area, this time in the Luremont area of Town Center. Discussion regarding the path planning and what property owners might be affected was addressed. A hike is planned the next week to GPS several proposed loops of the planned system. The trail system looks very promising.

5. Status of planning for Lake Lure Flowering Bridge – Bill updated the progress for the gateway as well as new fundraising efforts. Bloom In America has a competition for grant monies that Bill will look into. Discussion was made regarding the right of way from DOT. Chimney Rock State Park is also discussing partnering on this project.

6. Status of Morse Park Wetland Restoration and Enhancement Plan permitting process – Ed discussed the approval that was received from one of the four agencies that are needed for this project to move forward, as well as the status of the other agencies approvals. The critical one is from the Asheville office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Revision of the narrative on the application to USACE had to be done due to wording. Equinox was hired to obtain the permit on behalf of the Town and Things are moving ahead, if ever so slowly. Hopefully a USACE permit will be forthcoming before Thanksgiving.

7. Tree planting recommendations – Melody Potter passed out an image enhanced copy showing what the area would look like in front of the beach with crepe myrtles planted there. The recommended Dynamite Crepe Myrtle has bright colored red and blooms from July to November. The trees would cost \$75 per tree. There were no objections from the P&R members for this planting to continue.

8. Status of work on parkland maintenance punchlist – Ed commended Melody for her hard work on the punchlist. He mentioned how thankful he was that she is now in charge of parks maintenance. Ed asked Board members to keep him apprised of any parks maintenance needs they see. Clint did point out a potentially dangerous pine overhanging the Piney Hill Trail.

Adjournment

Ed Dittmer adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Kat Canant, Town Employee