



# ***Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board Meeting***

## ***Meeting Minutes***

February 2, 2012

### **Call to order**

Chairman Ed Dittmer called the regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:48 pm on February 2, 2012

### **Roll Call**

- o **Board Members Present:** Ed Dittmer, Larry Czajkoski, Linda Turner, Martyn Watts, Todd Dunnuck
- o **Board Members Absent:** Bill Miller, Chuck Watkins
- o **Town Officials Present:** Commissioner Diane Barrett, Commissioner John Moore, Parks & Recreation Supervisor Melodie Potter, Town Planner Suzy Smoyer, Lake Operations Director Dean Givens, Community Development Director Shannon Baldwin, Public Works Director Tony Hennessee, LLCA Board member Russ Pitts,

### **Approval of Agenda and Minutes from last meeting**

Meeting agenda was reviewed. Motion was made to accept the agenda by Todd Dunnuck, seconded by Linda Turner, and the motion passed.

The minutes from the January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Motion was made to accept the minutes; seconded by Todd Dunnuck, and the motion passed.

### **Open Issues**

**1. Status of Morse Park Wetland Restoration and Enhancement Plan contracting process –** Ed discussed the burn in two of the wetland areas that occurred earlier in the week, as well that Clint Calhoun had concerns about native plants that were in the middle wetland area and put off burning that area of Morse Park. Construction is set to begin on the week of 27 February, provided a contractor is selected in the interim. There was discussion regarding the bidding process, the selection of the bids and the construction calendar (see Morse Park Wetland Enhancement Pre-bid Conference handout and Morse Park Construction Schedule). This handout information was reviewed at length. There was discussion regarding the soil for the land bridge and that it may need to be dried out before placement for compactness. There was further discussion regarding offsite material and how to get it to the site if needed. Ed discussed having the Board's approval for him to make the decision for the winning bidder, and the members agreed. Martyn offered to help in assisting with the selection. Bids from three contractors recommended by Equinox are due in by February 7, 2012, and hopefully selection can be made with what money we have

available to at least get started on the project while the lake is lowered. Clint Calhoun will be performing on-site construction review, with Fred Grogan of Equinox as overall project manager. There was discussion regarding the end date of construction and to place possible penalties if not met by the contractor. Ed discussed monies left in this fiscal year for this project as well as the phases of the project.

**2. Status of planning for Lake Lure Flowering Bridge** – Linda mentioned the Town Council's approval of the request for an additional \$10K from the bridge preservation fund, contingent on a 5-Year Performance Statement. There was discussion regarding the statement and what the contents should be. .

**3. Status of planning for "Northern Parkland/Buffalo Creek Park"** – Suzy discussed the 2 grants (PARTF and RTP) for which applications have been completed, approved by Council, and turned in. Suzy did a great job in writing and coordinating the applications. Further discussion was made regarding the grant amounts and any local matching amount and how that would be obtained. Ed discussed that Trail Dynamics has flagged trails on the upland portion of the Buffalo Creek parkland. Larry mentioned that the Rumbling Bald Resort trailhead is moving forward. He also mentioned that there will be a construction and emergency access to the trail system within the RBR side.

**4. Status of work on parkland maintenance punchlist** – Melodie discussed the work that has been completed on the punchlist (see handout Parks Maintenance Punchlist – February 2012). Most of the debris on the edges of the wetlands in Morse Park has been hauled off. Discussion was made regarding leaving some of the debris. Ed mentioned that new rope is on its way to replace the rope that was cut at the pavilion wharf. Todd discussed the wood duck box in place. There was further discussion regarding the importance of signage importance for walkers/hikers at Donald Ross Nature Trail Park, and Mel discussed getting the no Trespassing sign up there on the old logging road off the Ridge Trail. There was discussion regarding the boulder placement to locations in the park.

## **New Issues**

**5. LLCA permanent campus and recreation concerns** – (Previous to this meeting board members met at the proposed new site for LLCA and discussed the site plan.) LLCA Board member Russ Pitts displayed the original plans for LLCA as well as the revised site plan. The original plan used approximately 95 acres, whereas the revised plan is using approximately 81 acres which is what the State of North Carolina recommends for schools K-12. There was lengthy discussion regarding the land use, the library use and the access from Hwy 9 and Island Creek Road. Board members discussed their concerns over the impact of the enlarged LLCA campus plan on current and planned public recreation use. Russ promised that LLCA would work with the P & R Board on the site plan and would replace any trails impacted by school plans. (See LLCA Site Plan renderings dated 1/3/12 (original) and 1/27/12 (revised) handouts, and LLCA-CFA Parks & Recreation Update dated 1/19/2012) Russ discussed the community involvement in making sure this positive action moves forward. He discussed the plan to meet with Town Council to obtain a Resolution of Intent to sell, transfer or donate land to LLCA. There was further discussion regarding the library partnership and the benefits it would have for the Town of Lake Lure. Russ discussed the steps that need to happen for this

plan to take place. He asked for support from the Parks and Recreation Board. Motion was made by Larry Czajkoski that the Parks and Recreation Board Members recommend and support the revised Conceptual Plan for LLCA to The Town Council. The motion was seconded by Linda Turner, and the Motion was approved unanimously.

**6. Landscaping at renovated Washburn Marina area** – Ed discussed Dean Given's proposal for landscaping at the Marina. Dean mentioned that some things had changed from the original renderings that he brought before the Board one year ago. He further asked the Board to work with Mel and Tony on the landscaping plans. Dean mentioned that some of the original \$10K landscaping budget has been used for the benches and running a water line for a water fountain that will be placed at the entrance for Morse Park Gardens. Dean brought up for discussion a new plan for the placement of the gas tank. There was lengthy discussion regarding moving it from its current location to the location at the edge of Morse Park Meadow at the current site of the port-a-johns. The port-a-johns would be moved further west in the same area. Plans are to put up an attractive enclosure and to landscape the exterior of that enclosure. Furthermore, if the tank were approved by Council to be moved the landscape plan will include landscaping the old gas tank location. Ed asked Martyn, Larry, and Linda to develop a landscape plan in coordination with Tony and Melodie for the Board to review. Further discussion was made regarding possibly asking Town Council for additional out of the marina contingency fund to proceed with an approved plan. Motion was made by Todd Dunnuck, and seconded by Linda Turner, to recommend to Council to move the gas tank to the location where the port-a-johns are. To move the port-a-johns farther to the west in the Meadow, to add additional funding from the marina contingency fund to landscape the three disturbed areas at the marina, and to add a fenced enclosure with landscaping to the new tank location. The motion was approved unanimously.

**7. Requested meeting with Town Council to discuss Parks and Recreation Board responsibilities and role vis-à-vis Town property** – Ed advised the board that he has had discussions with the Town Manager and the role of the Board is now better understood and there was no longer a need to further discuss this item and it has been removed from the agenda.

**8. Proposal by Lake Lure Properties (LLP) for traffic island improvements in Town Center** – The site plan was discussed. (See site map of Town Center by Shannon Baldwin which was emailed to board). Shannon reviewed the site plans wherein LLP is desirous of utilizing the traffic islands for outdoor food and beverage use. There was discussion regarding leasing the land and having the leaser use private dollars for improvements. There was further discussion about the long term planning for this area and making sure that any changes are compatible with future plans. Ed asked Shannon that the Board be involved in these discussions.

**9. 2012 Cycle Carolina "Mountains to Coast" Fall Ride overnight hosting requirements and Board involvement** – Ed discussed the information that was provided via Chris Braund regarding the Mountains to Coast bicycle ride at the end of September. Discussion regarding overnight camping for the ride at Morse Park and what else was required from the Town to be chosen as a host city for one night of the ride. Todd mentioned the positive outcome that can come to the town for being an overnight host for this ride. Further discussion will follow. Ed asked any Board member

that wanted to be on the organizing committee and wants to help with the event to let him know.

**Adjournment**

Ed Dittmer adjourned the meeting at 4:23 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Kat Canant, Town Employee