



Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2012

Call to order

Chairman Ed Dittmer called the regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:37 pm on March 1, 2012

Roll Call

- **Board Members Present:** Ed Dittmer, Larry Czajkowski, Linda Turner, Martyn Watts, Chuck Watkins,
- **Board Members Absent:** Bill Miller, Todd Dunnuck
- **Town Officials Present:** Commissioner Diane Barrett, Parks & Recreation Supervisor Melodie Potter, Town Planner Suzy Smoyer

Approval of Agenda and Minutes from last meeting

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

The minutes from the February 2nd, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Motion was made to accept the minutes by Martyn Watts; seconded by Linda Turner, and the motion passed.

Open Issues

1. Status of planning for Buffalo Creek parkland - Suzy Smoyer gave a brief overview of the Buffalo Creek Park progress, noting that she walked the trail alignment with Chris Braund and Shrimper (trail designer with Trail Dynamics). The property is very beautiful and unique and should provide a fun trail system with great vistas. Trail Dynamics will provide the town with the GPS'd trail alignment. Suzy also gave a quick update on the grants. We have submitted grant applications to the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) and Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF). We won't hear back from PARTF until late May or June. We won't hear back from RTP until September.

Larry Czajkowski gave an overview of the progress for the trailhead at Rumbling Bald. Liz Hair with the US Army Corps of Engineers came out to flag the wetlands. There is area on higher ground that will work for the trailhead and parking. However, Rumbling Bald Resort needs to coordinate with the Town regarding the boundary between the Resort property and the parkland.

Ed Dittmer mentioned that we has included funds for Buffalo Creek Park development in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) request to be addressed later under New Issues.

2. Landscaping plan for renovated Washburn Marina area – Martyn Watts
presented landscape plans for the Washburn Marina area that included the following:

- A 20' x 20' pergola
- Smaller triangle shaped pergola
- Block pavers
- Benches
- Planting such as Carolina Jasmine and Honeysuckle
- Areas to be landscaped with reclaimed river pebbles or mulch
- A water feature
- Privacy fencing

There was a discussion regarding the smaller pergola, fence height, and the water feature in the area to the north of the ticket office. The group was in favor of some sort of water feature. Linda Turner made a motion to recommend the plans to Town Council. Chuck Watkins seconded. All were in favor.

Next Steps:

- Martyn will get bid quotes from contractors for hardscape
- Develop a comprehensive planting plan.

There was a brief discussion regarding the amount of money in this FY's budget for Parks and Recreation landscaping. Melodie noted that she needs \$6,000 to finish out this year, which will include \$3,000 for mulch, \$200 for annuals, \$2,000 for rock dust, and \$100 for herbicides. A surplus total of \$7,000 out of the P & R operational budget was included in a budget adjustment by Town Council on 28 February to complete the Morse Park project construction work this year.

3. Status of proposal by Lake Lure Properties for Traffic Island Improvements in Town Center - Suzy Smoyer gave an overview of progress. CDD staff provided Mr. Wittmer with a list of requested changes to the plans, along with comments and questions and asked for a revised plan by Friday, March 2, 2012. The CDD staff will schedule a review committee after we receive the revised plans and will forward the revised plans with final comments to Town Council in March.

4. Status of work on parkland maintenance punchlist – Part-time employee – Mike Brevard - expected to be hired next week to work summer months

5. Status of planning for Lake Lure Flowering Bridge (LLFB) – The LLFB Board has submitted a five-year projected budget for the bridge project to Town Council which Linda provided to the Board. She discussed the LLFB positions on the initial design placement of flower garden boxes and a serpentine walkway crossing the bridge---only have 20 feet in width to work with. Contracted landscape architect firm Cardno asked to provide a re-design. At 5pm, March 20th there will be a "Thank You" reception for donors and supporters.

6. Status of Morse Park Wetland Restoration and Enhancement Plan contracting process – Ed briefed the Board that Town Council had authorized a budget adjustment of \$80,000 at its 28 February special meeting to bring the project total for the remaining year to \$113,000 in order to complete all of the project construction this FY, with

additional funding needed next FY to complete the required planting phase and project completion before March 2013, per the permit agreement. Value and savings will be achieved by implementing all 3 construction phases at one time.

Selected contractor Tim Edwards Landscaping has started work on the project and is already now working on constructing the land bridge between the near wetland and the pond, with some dredging being done at the west end of the pond. The middle wetland has finally been burned off and free of most vegetation for earthmoving to begin to build cells and a channel for stormwater flow to hopefully get done before the water table rises with the lake going to full pond. The contractor will be laying pipe in Morse Park Meadow area shortly for storm water drainage off the parking areas. The pipe will be covered with excavated dirt from the middle wetland and leveled to provide additional Meadow event space.

Martyn offered his and the Board's thanks and appreciation for all the hard work and time Ed has put into moving the Morse Park project ahead and implementation has begun.

New Issues

7. Canada Geese Mitigation Program - Reduced numbers of resident Canada geese noted – egg oiling has been working. Clint Calhoun will still coordinate the mitigation program with volunteers, with sightings of geese paring and nesting underway and oiling of eggs to start by early April.

8. Budget Development – Ed passed out a summary of his and Melodie's preliminary response to a request from Sam Karr for a Parks and Recreation operational budget need for next FY. Discussion on the cost/need for replacing equipment in upcoming year---could be costly. There was also discussion regarding Melodie's desire for replacement of the remaining cherry trees in front of the beach with red crepe myrtles next fall and to move any remaining cherry trees to the finger area between Pool Creek and the beach.

Ed also presented a proposed Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Program (CIP) submission covering the FY2012/2013 through FY2017/2018 budget period. Ed recommended four projects for CIP funding during this period---Morse Park Improvements, the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge, Buffalo Creek Park Development, and the Island Creek Road recreation center, and community park development adjacent to the permanent LLCA campus. The Board reviewed and discussed the CIP budget recommendation, noting a budget total discrepancy. and accepted the submission with the correction.

Adjournment

Ed Dittmer adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Minutes were taken by Suzy Smoyer and Diane Barrett and transcribed by Kat Canant