

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

January 3, 2013

## **Call to order**

Chairman Ed Dittmer called the regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:32 pm on January 3, 2013

## **Roll Call**

- **Board Members Present:** Ed Dittmer, Linda Turner, Chuck Watkins, Todd Dunnuck,
- **Board Members Absent:** Martyn Watts, Bill Miller, Larry Czajkoski
- **Town Officials Present:** Commissioner Diane Barrett, Parks & Recreation Supervisor Melodie Potter, Environmental Management Officer Clint Calhoun

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

Meeting agenda was reviewed. Ed Dittmer requested an adjustment be made to the agenda by delaying discussion regarding the Extension of the Town Center Walkway to Chimney Rock Village. Motion was made to accept the agenda with the adjustment by Linda Turner, seconded by Todd Dunnuck. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The minutes from the December 6, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Motion was made to accept the minutes by Linda Turner, seconded by Todd Dunnuck. All were in favor and the motion passed.

## **Open Issues**

**1, Status of planning for Buffalo Creek Parkland Development** – Ed Dittmer reviewed a meeting of the Steering Committee in which a Contract has been drafted and will be taken to Town Council 1/8/2013 to be considered. Trail Dynamics is scheduled to have five miles of type 2 and 3 trails completed by the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. This will be paid with the \$106,000 that was raised through grants and matching grants. Ed introduced to the Board a spreadsheet from Suzy Smoyer showing the grants that were applied for and those in the works and a budget for the project. The information looked quite good to the Board. Estimates came in for both a fiberglass bridge and a stick built wood bridge. Ed reviewed with Board a photo of what the wood bridge looked like and they were pleased with the structure and the esthetics. Ed mentioned that there was a problem with the bridge abutments that were planned to be used, however after the Engineer inspected them they were found not to be sound, therefore new abutments will need to be added into the estimate. There was further discussion and review of the planned bridge. Both the fiberglass and stick bridge have about the same life span of 25 years. Clint Calhoun discussed using steel beams which would be

more structurally sound, and discussed using wood for the bridge decking. Ed discussed the permitting stages and that they hope to get work started early this spring.

Ed stated that the negotiations for the old Buffalo Creek Road right of way planned for the access from trail head parking has a delay in that the lawyer that reviewed the proposed agreement stated that the transfer of that land would need to have a majority approval of property owners at the resort and while this may not be a problem, it would effect and delay any land transfer plans. The same applies to the Wyndham property desired for public trailhead parking. That property is assessed at \$11K. Linda discussed that the features and amenities of having that land used for the parking and trail head and how it would actually be a benefit to the owners at the resort. There was further discussion regarding such. There is an agreement of access to the resort property that would give Trail Dynamics access to get the trail construction equipment through to begin work on the trail. That agreement would expire on May 1, 2013. Hopefully by this time the bridge would be completed and would become the access to continue trail construction.

**2. Status of Flowering Bridge Project** – Chuck brought the Board up to date on the bridge's progress. The water and electric are almost completed. The next project is sealing of the bridge. An epoxy mixed cement will be brushed and troweled on. The same mix will be used to seal the flower boxes. Bob Cameron has volunteered his services to run the 110v wires on the electric side. The east end major landscaping is done and the rock French drain is complete. The automatic sprinkler system is done. There was discussion regarding an area that is prone to retain water. Melody and Clint discussed a Rain Garden, which has been successful at other locations in Asheville and Hendersonville. Chuck said he would certainly look into this and liked the idea. The east garden rails have been delivered. They are split rails and will be on each side of the paved area. There have been 800 flowering bulbs planted for spring blooming. The rock wall at the river's edge has been installed. They are still looking for styrofoam peanuts that is to be used as drainage filler for the beds. They are on schedule for the Grand Opening in the fall. There was discussion by Linda regarding the grants that were applied for. They have completed the budget plan for the next 2 years.

**3. Status of Morse Park Wetland Restoration and Enhancement Project** –

Clint Calhoun discussed that the Corps of Engineers rep Liz Hair sent the Town a letter stating that the project is complete and is now in the Town's hands. Clint stated that she asked that in lieu of the planned planting phase that had been project plan, that live stakes be emplanting in the wetlands. There was an area of concern she raised about the connection channel between the near and middle wetlands, however Melodie and Clint both have viewed this area and it is working perfectly through the grassy spillway. There was discussion regarding this. Ms. Hair was very pleased in her letter and asked that it be a priority to get the exotic invasives under control. Clint is sending her a copy of the land maintenance plan that covers this area. Other than that, everything was good and will free up funds to do further landscaping in Morse Park.

**4. Status of work on parkland maintenance punchlist** – Melodie discussed the removal of trees around the lake shore that had fallen. She has the stain for the pergola and will apply it as weather permits.

### **Other Discussion Topics**

Both Todd Dunnuck and Martyn Watts have asked to be reappointed to their positions on the Board. Chuck Watkins is resigning his position. Those seeking appointment to the Board need to have their applications ASAP to the Town Council for consideration at their next meeting, January 8, 2013.

Chuck mentioned that he picked up a Volksmarch brochure from the Lake Lure Inn lobby. He will get with the Walters to see about getting a better map placed in the brochure.

Clint updated the Board on the new State Park trail revision at the trailhead located off of Boys Camp Road. He stated that the trail had been re-done and it is very nice. It leads to the foot of the boulders.

Ed briefly discussed the CRSP Master Plan regarding the extension of the Summits Trail and gave an update on a RTP grant application by the Town to extend the Summits Trail to Eagle Rock. He discussed the mountain biking trails and a hikers' tent/camping area planned for the CMLC property and how they connect to Buffalo Creek Park.

There will be an Open House at the Town Hall on January 15<sup>th</sup> from 5pm – 7:30pm that will cover the many ongoing projects occurring in the town. Ed encouraged the Board to attend.

### **Adjournment**

Ed Dittmer adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Minutes were taken by Kat Canant, Town Administration Employee

The next Parks & Recreation Board Meeting will be held on February 7, 2013