



# Town of *Lake Lure* est. 1927 North Carolina

## **Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board Meeting** **September 3, 2015 Minutes**

### **Call to Order**

Chairman Jim Walters called to order the regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:33pm

### **Roll Call**

Board Members present:

Jim Walters

Ed Dittmer

Martyn Watts

Dale Minick

Board Members absent:

Linda Turner

Larry Czajkoski

Vic Knight

Town Officials present:

Environmental Manager Clint Calhoun

Parks & Recreation Supervisor Melodie Potter

Town Council Liaison Diane Barrett

Others present:

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MEETING MINUTES**

The agenda for the September 3, 2015 meeting was reviewed.

**A motion was made by Ed Dittmer to accept the Agenda; seconded by Dale Minick; all were in favor.**

The minutes of the August 6, 2015 meeting were reviewed. **A motion was made by Ed Dittmer to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Dale Minick; all were in favor.**

### **Geese Mitigation – Jim Walters**

In Larry's absence Jim updated the Board that Larry will be meeting with Andy Moore from the US Department of Agriculture and Wildlife Services on October 1, 2015 at 10am. Mr. Moore will also be present during the October 1<sup>st</sup> Park and Recreation Board Meeting. Jim felt that the board has discussed this topic in a complete and responsible manner and we will wait to see what Mr. Moore has to say and where his suggestions may lead us next.



Jim added that there is a group in the Raleigh area that actually does the exact same mitigation as the volunteers in Lake Lure have been doing, however they charge for it. Jim mentioned that there were some unfavorable reviews on the web regarding the geese defecation in and around the lake. The Board discussed the unfavorable mentions as well as the many favorable. They agreed that the bad review needs to be addressed which they feel that the steps they're making and have been making, are doing just that.

Jim will be getting with Valerie to get signs up to get the public and residents of town to stop feeding the geese.

#### **Lake Lure Flowering Bridge and Town of Lake Lure – Village of Chimney Rock Road connector walkway – Jim Walters**

Jim read notes that Linda gave him regarding the flowering bridge. In the month of August they were \$2 shy of making it the biggest month for donations. They received \$1296.13. The DOT has received the report from the Bridge Preservation Fund. The Cell Phone Garden Tour is in the works and they're looking forward to getting this up and running. The Sensory Garden tour is now a part of the bridge's amenities.

#### **Donald Ross Park and Trail System – Ed Dittmer**

The trails have been connected but haven't been opened yet. The school is waiting for their occupancy statement. This way the contractor can remove himself from the scene and take down the fences. LLCA Cross Country Meet will be held on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Four schools will be competing. Ed has been working closely with Brad White, the LLCA athletic director, on laying out a 5K high school cross country course using part of the Donald Ross trail system as well as a loop of golf course cart paths and access roads on LLCA property. Ed measured the trails, the cart paths at the golf course and secondary roads and has come up with two options. One is to start at the Meadow area and end in the Meadow area, the second is to start at the school and end at the school. Both are 5K courses for Cross Country. Ed will be out marking the trail on the 4<sup>th</sup>. He may need some volunteers to help with the Cross Country Meet for directional help on the trails. Ed has also been working with Chris, who had a trail designer look at routing an alternate trail that goes to the ridge without all the hills. It would use an old extension of Justice Drive. Chris Braund will be speaking with land owners. That trail is currently flagged. The school has offered to have the kids help with some of the work in the trail building. Ed thanked Dale for allowing use of the golf course cart paths.

#### **Lake Lure Public Golf Course – Dale Minick**

Dale updated the Board on the use of the course. There has been a decent number of players out but at meeting time he was not sure of the exact numbers. Foot golf has gone down. There have been lots of phone calls but they were unable to get that traffic in to play. September 19<sup>th</sup> will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Club Championship. Dale is working with the media for marketing efforts. Overall it has been a good summer. They have been aerating the greens. They are adding sand to Bunker 6 to help with drainage in that area. Martyn added that the greens looked well. Jim asked that Dale send Kat the numbers to add to the minutes. ADDED to Minutes 9/28/15 Total golfers for August were 688, better than the 635 from August of 2014. Foot Golfers for August totaled 45 bringing the 2015 total Foot Golfers to 194. <sup>End</sup>



### **Buffalo Creek Park – Jim Walters**

Jim read an email from Larry from Chris Braund, regarding the Buffalo Creek Trail extension to Eagle Rock. Trail Dynamics has designed a trail up to Eagle Rock and proposed a price for implementation. Attached to the email was a map for reference. The new trail is blazed on a long flat ridge along the Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy land. This will keep it off the individually owned land on Gray Rock. There are general switch backs with a beautiful ridge which leaves great future plans for camping. The next steps are to update the maps. Clint will prepare and put in for permits. Suzi will put in for an extension of the RTP grant. With these things falling into place, it's hoped the trail will be built this winter. The Board discussed the maps and the layout of the new trail. They were excited to see this continuation.

### **Pool Creek Park – Jim Walters**

Vic was absent. Melodie said that the resurfacing of the parking area between Pool Creek Park and ABC should begin this month. There will be three parking signs for the ABC store. The ABC store had a difficult time with parking during the Olympiad and Dirty Dancing weekend. Melodie gave a price to Jim for the picnic tables, the building of the pads, the grills and garbage containers totaling \$6900.00. Jim said to go ahead and order the parking signs. He also stated that he had not heard back from Valarie yet regarding some other signs. There was discussion about Pool Creek being a part of the master plan which was in mind when Melodie priced the items. Melodie asked if she could continue on the picnic pads and that they were a small part of the cost. Jim agreed for her to begin.

There was further discussion regarding the two events being held on separate weekends next year since the town is finding it hard to accommodate such a large turnout, this includes places for them to stay. Ed mentioned that they will be held on two separate weekends next year.

### **Morse Park – Jim Walters**

Jim read a finding from the Risk Management Consultant Amy Whisnant with the NC League of Municipalities regarding the rope railing out at the Gazebo dock walkway. She felt that it was inadequate. The Board discussed safety issues and discussed using cable strands under the rope. Jim, Mel, Tony and Chris will meet to investigate an approach on the matter. There was a question as to if the signs reading "No Boat Parking" on this dock walkway were still in place.

### **Town Parks and Recreational Punch List – Melodie Potter**

Melodie stated that they were ready for the Labor Day weekend. Morse Park Gardens looks great with all the flowing plants especially at sunset looking back over the gorge.

### **New Business**

Jim received an email from a visitor to the Tennis Court area suggesting putting a backboard up for those who want to play solo tennis or practice. There was discussion regarding this. There was suggestion that it would not be good to the structure of the fence and could cause the fence to come down during high winds. The Board after thorough discussion felt that they would be unable to accommodate this request.

There was discussion regarding planting flowers/shrubs on the berm banks. Martyn suggest several types of plants that may not require maintenance. He suggest doing this being that it was so difficult to mow. Clint stated that the soil was very "junky" soil and would be difficult to grow anything.



Martyn thought something 4-5 feet tall and using a mulch. There was discussion regarding anything being planted. It was mentioned that there needed to be caution used when deciding this as our first responders use the top of that berm to land helicopters to fly emergency patients out. This information was received and suggestions about revising the areas of planting were discussed.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ed Dittmer and seconded by Martyn Watts. The September 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board was adjourned by Jim Walters with all in favor at 2:45pm

Minutes were transcribed by Town Liaison Kat Canant

The next Parks & Recreation Board meeting will be by October 1, 2015 at 1:30pm

