



Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board Meeting

January 7, 2016 Minutes

Call to Order

Co Chairman Ed Dittmer called to order the regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:33pm

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Ed Dittmer

Dale Minick

Vic Knight

Larry Czajkoski

Linda Turner

Board Members absent:

Jim Walters

Martyn Watts

Town Officials present:

Town Council Liaison Stephen Webber

Town Manager Chris Braund

Others present:

Parks & Recreation Supervisor Melodie Potter

Environmental Manager Clint Calhoun

Dana Bradley, Rutherford County AmeriCorps Representative

This meeting of the Parks & Recreation, Co-Chairman Ed Dittmer was sitting in for Chairman Jim Walters who was attending a family function.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MEETING MINUTES

The agenda for the January 7, 2016 meeting was reviewed.

A motion was made by Dale Minick to accept the Agenda; seconded by Linda Turner; all were in favor.

The minutes of the December 3, 2015 meeting were reviewed. A suggestion to add on Page 1, the surname of Andy Moore was made. **A motion was made by Linda Turner to approve the minutes as ammended; the motion was seconded by Dale Minick; all were in favor.**

Appointments

Re-appointments of Martyn Watts and Dale Minick were mentioned. Stephen Webber is the new Town Council member liaison to the P & R Board.

A nomination was made by Linda Turner to re-appoint Jim Walters as Chairman of the Park and Recreation Board. The motion was seconded by Larry Czajkoski and all were in favor.

A nomination was made by Linda Turner to re-appoint Ed Dittmer as Co-Chairman of the Park and Recreation Board. The motion was seconded by Larry Czajkoski and all were in favor.

Geese Mitigation – Jim Walters

Larry discussed that Jim is preparing a proposal to the council regarding the plan of Geese Mitigation. Some of the highlights in this plan are making significant attempts in the harassment of the geese and to keep records of the activities which will support and further action. The application for the removal permit is due in March. There was further discussion to continue with the suggestions Andy Moore made regarding the harassment and continue from there with plans. There was discussion regarding the application for the Federal Depredation Permit. Linda brought up that it was her understanding that we needed to work on the plan through this year to continue attempts at mitigating the geese, and then this permit may need to be done next year. The board is in agreement with this. Larry will reach out to Jim to discuss what they need to have in the plans to go before the council.

Lake Lure Flowering Bridge and Town of Lake Lure – Village of Chimney Rock Road connector walkway – Linda Turner

Linda suggested that the board remove the Village of Chimney Rock Road connector walkway due to the issues with DOT and that it is most likely not to happen in the near future. Linda mentioned that all the pavers have been used. There was discussion of the Sensory Trail and 2 tours they were working on. Funds from the Lion's Club will be helping with funding for a fountain at the Welcome Center location of the Flowering Bridge. Linda mentioned that there were significant funds brought in last year by the committee selling items at the Artisan Center, however it has closed. It was suggested later in the meeting for Linda to look into selling the items with Chimney Rock merchants as well as at the Golf Course shop. Linda discussed the Renew your Friendship Membership drive. The committee is working on the new 2016-17 budget.

Donald Ross Park and Trail System – Ed Dittmer

Ed Dittmer mentioned that there were about five trees down on the trail and asked Melodie to look into the removal. Ed mentioned to Chris Braund that they, with Dana Bradley get together to flag the trail. There has been no new progress on the ridge trail. Chris Braund mentioned that he had written the two owners for temporary or permanent easement but has not gotten a reply from either. Ed mentioned the need for new signs which Chris Braund mentioned that once the new trail is complete they will get with Valerie Hoffman for new signage. There was discussion about renaming the park. The board will gather ideas and discuss them at the next meeting. Ed said that the trails looked really good and that they have held up really well after 10 years. Ed thanked Dale for some removal of trees that had fallen by the golf course.

Lake Lure Public Golf Course – Dale Minick

Dale reviewed with the Board that for the month of December there were 230 players, over the 197 in December of 2014. For 2015 there were 4829 rounds played just under 2014's number of 5051. However with the addition of Foot Golf, adding 270 rounds, that brings the total rounds played for 2015 to 5099, over the 2014 numbers. Dale mentioned that they are busy with winter work clearing brush. They will do one more top dressing depending on the weather. The parking lot paving looks very nice. They will also be working on the entrances. Dale discussed the culvert and that it was now draining nicely. Dale is anticipating new business from the approved Lodge. Stephen asked if the golf course would be benefiting from the new water line. Dale mentioned that if it is hooked into the club house that they would. He said that the irrigation comes from the lake. Dale reviewed an increase in membership and greens fees. By adding the chipping green and the bunker he hopes to get more membership. He hopes that people will realize the improvements will warrant the increase.

Buffalo Creek Park – Larry Czajkoski

Dana discussing that the fallen trees have been removed and that the trails look amazing. Chris mentioned that a procedure should be made for fallen trees and that the new vendor was very thorough. The vendor was Epperson's Tree Service. Chris discussed that the first loop is doing well. He reviewed Phase II extension with the board and the grant funds were to be allocated for a 7 mile trail, however after Ed Sutton flagged a trail of 4 miles, this had used all the grant funds. To adhere to the grant they had to complete 7 miles. Chris mentioned that the CMLC found donors who have given the funds to complete the 7 mile trek. Ed Sutton will begin construction on this trail in possibly late spring to early summer. The Board was very pleased with this news. Linda asked the names of the donors, however at this time they are anonymous. Stephen mentioned to the Board that the Church of Transfiguration in Bat Cave has ministry of tree removal. They use the removed wood to help supply fire wood to those in need.

Pool Creek Park – Vic Knight

Vic presented the Board a preliminary plan of the Beach deck design. The town is putting 15K into the project. Vic reviewed small upgrades to enhance the building. These upgrades tie into the town's future plans for improvements for Pool Creek. There was further discussion regarding this. Clint discussed that Vic needed to look at the flood plain issues that the improvement might hinder. Chris said that there would be a meeting this next Thursday, 1/14/16 at 10am to get Steve, Tony and Melodie all together on a plan. He felt that it should be attended by the Board. There was discussion of the Beach House restrooms which need upgrading. There was further discussion regarding the

fencing used around the Beach and Pool Creek Park and that it had an “uninviting” feel. The Board discussed possible improvements to bring a more inviting feel to the area. Steve mentioned marketing a type of resident promo card that could be used for Lake Lure residents to get into the Beach as well as get discounts for local establishments. There was further discussion regarding this. Chris asked the Board to get together with these thoughts and relay them to him.

Morse Park – Jim Walters

Melodie discussed using the Pool Creek bridge parts once it’s removed to put a boardwalk in the wetlands area. This was discussed. Clint said it would be feasible to do but would check on any issues a boardwalk may cause. Clint discussed the burning of the wetlands as they’ve done in the past; however he wanted to steer away from that. He has seen that in not burning the wetlands that other growth is crowding out the Microstegiums which may be the solution to the problem. He is seeing a lot of jewel weed which when Ryan Lubbers visited he noted to Clint that there were around 2k humming birds present in that area. Clint suggested to the Board that they work on using that area as an educational tool, using signage describing the habitat and what it promotes. Chris Braund mentioned that this could be used for the Monarch Butterflies. Clint agreed and discussed milkweed planting.

Melodie will be putting new rock dust out this year in the spring. Mulch will be laid the last week in March to first week in April. Melodie will get the Willows Ed spoke of in the last meeting. There was discussion about using the Rutherford County AmeriCorps grant funding to get the pathways paved. Ed mentioned this would be much friendlier for visitors and those using the gazebo for events. It would help with the problem of water standing in areas. Dana recommended that the Board apply for the grants. Ed will pursue this. Chris mentioned that Suzy was great at grant writing and it would be a good idea to use her talents.

Chris discussed the dredging which will begin next week. The pits in Morse Park will be used as an area to dump what is dredged. Once it is dry, the contractor will haul it away. There was discussion on the dredging plans and the process.

Town Council Liaison – Stephen Webber

Stephen had nothing further to add.

Guests and Visitor Discussion

None

New Business

Dana mentioned the new hikes that the Rutherford Outdoor Coalition is putting on. She suggested searching online on the RutherfordOutdoor.org website to sign up for hikes.

Chris Braund asked if the Board had been hearing from the public regarding a dog park. Ed stated that they’ve not heard from anyone in quite some time. The Board discussed continued promoting of the Donald Ross Trail as dog friendly trails.

Melodie asked if there was any update on her request for the tables and pads out at Pool Creek Park. It was suggested that she include the cost in the 2016-17 Budget.

Clint mentioned that he needed to put the cost of replacing the trees at Morse Park that were removed, into the budget as well.

Linda mentioned the Beach building encouraging the spruce up in the front. Chris Braund stated that the Town needed to look at ownership issues of items that the management of that establishment builds. The Board will discuss this at the meeting on Thursday that they intend to attend. Chris mentioned that Jim had told him he would be there.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Linda Turner and seconded by Larry Czajkoski. The January 7, 2016 meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board was adjourned by Ed Dittmer with all in favor at 2:58pm

Minutes were transcribed by Town Liaison Kat Canant

The next Parks & Recreation Board meeting will be February 4, 2016 at 1:30pm