



Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board Meeting

May 2, 2019

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Ed Dittmer called to order the May 2, 2019 meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:30 p.m. at the Lake Lure Town Hall.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Ed Dittmer
Maureen Bay
Bill Massey
Martyn Watts
Dan Bragdon

Board Members absent:

Jim Walters
Larry Czajkoski
Dale Minick

Town Council Members present:

Stephen M. Webber, Commissioner

Other Town Staff Present:

Melodie Potter, Town Parks and Recreation Supervisor
Laura Krejci, Town Communication Specialist
Dean Givens, Lake Lure Parks, Recreation and Lake Director
Garrett Murphy, Town of Lake Lure Parks and Recreation Coordinator

Others in Attendance:

Dana Bradley, AmeriCorps Trail Coordinator

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MEETING MINUTES

The Agenda for the May 5, 2019 meeting was reviewed. Mr. Dittmer asked to add Mr. Garrett Murphy's discussion regarding Leash Law for all Town Parks. **Mr. Massey made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. Mr. Watts seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

The Minutes of the April 4, 2019 meeting were reviewed. **Mr. Massey made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented. Mrs. Bay seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

Special Topics – Presentation & Discussions

Naming Town of Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Facilities and ways to monetize assets and facilities through Naming Rights, Sponsorships, Honoraria or other means – Mr. Andy Bell

Mr. Bell began by introducing himself and discussed the history of colleges for operating and funding. He spoke about non-profits and how government entities were not getting enough funds through tax dollars to develop and maintain town features. Mr. Bell continued, discussing pricing policies and opportunities towns may miss when it comes to naming parks and features in their town. The Board and Mr. Bell discussed opportunities by allowing monetization of an asset, such as allowing donors to help build and maintain parks and assets by funding. The new campground was discussed and it was decided to put off naming it until the Board could further discuss how to monetize it. Mr. Massey felt that there were those in the Town that could best help with this forming a policy that could take the Town's assets and monetize them with funding from residents. He also mentioned that another group such as the past Asset Management Board should be over forming the research and that the Park and Recreation Board could assist. It was mentioned that 75% of Lake Lure homes are used as vacation homes and not full time occupancy. There was further discussion regarding naming policies that would use the monetization effort. There was discussion on how to raise money outside of the tax structure. Mr. Bell mentioned folks he knew that could help with building this effort such as a group of fund raising consultants he has worked with.

The Board agreed to delay the naming process for the campground. Mr. Bell stated he could assist the town to find greater opportunities for citizens to be citizens. The Board agreed and looked forward to future talks regarding this effort.

Parks, Recreation & Lake March 2019 Report – Mr. Garrett Murphy

Mr. Murphy reviewed with the Board the Monthly Report. He discussed ongoing activities such as the upcoming boat and car show. They are still looking for vendors as well as vendors for kid activities such as face painting. Chimney Rock State Park Advisory Committee is looking for people to apply for Board seats. Mr. Murphy said the Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail was in the process of repairs. Many fallen trees have been moved and there are still more since the wind storm last week. The culvert area was repaired. Mr. Watts was key in removing the very large tree that had blocked the trail for the past couple of months. Mr. Murphy distributed an updated calendar from the Vital Clarity Workshop. He has been busy developing a Scope of Work for the campground. He discussed grants that were applied for as well as one they just missed but Mr. Givens stated that they are meeting next week to further discuss grant opportunities. Mr. Dittmer mentioned that Buffalo Creek needed to be included when planning for grant funding.

The Board discussed the budgeted money that was to be used for the golf course upgrades. There was \$10K that was to be used. Mr. Givens wondered if it should be given back to the Town until further planning was completed. There was discussion on what part of the Morse Park Plan was driving the plan. The Board agreed that the moving of the tennis courts, basketball court and construction of a pickle ball court at the golf course was important and that nothing could happen until that takes place. The Board discussed that a study was to have been done to determine if those assets could be built at the golf course. Mr. Watts stated that there was plenty of flat property and there should be no problem. Mr. Webber mentioned that in order for the golf course to operate with an Alcohol License that there were certain requirements that the Board needed to keep in mind.

Mr. Murphy discussed that the Board was being requested to vote on a Leash Law that would pertain to all town properties with the exclusion of the Buffalo Creek Park and Weed Patch Mountain. He mentioned an incident that occurred recently occurred at Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail. The Board discussed different leash laws and how a leash law could be monitored. There was further remarks regarding just making a leash law for aggressive pets. The Board discussed that if there was a Leash Law, the liability fell on the pet owner. The Board after further discussion moved to vote.

Mrs. Bay made a motion that all Town of Lake Lure properties, including the Flowering Bridge and Dittmer-Watts Nature Trails, excluding Buffalo Creek Park and Weed Patch Mountain trails, conform to a Leash Law for all pets. Mr. Watts seconded the motion. Mr. Massey stated he was not in favor. The motion passed with three in favor and two opposed. Board Members in favor were Mrs. Moe Bay, Mr. Dan Bragdon and Mr. Martyn Watts. Board Members opposed were Mr. Bill Massey and Mr. Ed Dittmer

Buffalo Creek Park, Weedpatch Mountain & the Trail to Eagle Rock – Dana Bradley

Ms. Bradley announced that Mr. Schultze has taken another job and that she will step in and continue to assist the Board. Mrs. Bradley reviewed the counter numbers for the trails. A report was distributed to the Board. Ms. Bradley stated that the counters count hikers and bikers, bikers by the metal that passes by the counter. She mentioned that Weed Patch Mountain is gaining in biking use. Ms. Bradley told the Board that in September there will be another AmeriCore Volunteer coming on. She stated that Weed Patch Mountain is in great shape. She discussed maintenance that was completed after the wind storm. She inquired if the Board knew why there was a bell now hanging on the sign at the entrance to Buffalo Creek Park. The Board didn't know of this and Ms. Bradley stated she would get with Mr. Czajkoski. Ms. Bradley mentioned that the Kiosk needed to be updated with new information. Mr. Webber asked to Board to start translating the numbers that the counters gave as to where money would be best budgeted for maintenance.

Dittmer – Watts Nature Trail Park – Mr. Ed Dittmer

Mr. Dittmer took a moment to thank Mr. Watts for clearing the large tree that had hampered trail use for the last couple of months. He stated that Mrs. Potter and Mr. Landrum have been working hard removing downed trees. He mentioned that there are new trees down since the last wind storm. Mr. Dittmer also stated that the culvert area had been fixed and he told the Board that there was a problem with an area where a spring head is. There was discussion of a possible bridge that would be able to hold the maintenance vehicles.

Lake Lure Flowering Bridge – Mr. Bill Massey

Mr. Massey discussed the events that had recently taken place. There was an incredible turn out for the Ring in the Spring event. He stated that the Kiosk turned out incredibly and the panels that explained the some history of the county, the Hickory Nut Gorge and the Flowering Bridge were interactive had been well received. The sign arrived and is awaiting placement. He explained the many workshops that will continued as the year goes on as well as a Volunteer Appreciation Fountain was installed in the middle of the gazebo.

Lake Lure Public Golf Club – Mr. Martyn Watts

Mr. Watts stated that there were 490 rounds of golf and 34 rounds of foot golf. There were 150 people that had taken advantage of the special that had been offered. There was a discussion that the new golf carts had been received. The topic of an old golf cart could be used for Public Works. Mr. Watts stated that he believed there were now no older carts to be used. He mentioned that the Fire Department had been budgeted for a new Gator and that it was possible Public Works could use the old Gator. Mr. Webber stated that it would be up to the Town Manager if this were to take place, but he believed that the Fire Department still had plans to use the old Gator. Mr. Givens will check into this.

Morse Park – Mrs. Melodie Potter and Mr. Jim Walters

Mrs. Potter stated that they are in the midst of the planting the beds around town. They are busy getting ready for all the events coming up. Mrs. Potter discussed the leakage from the spoils pit with Mr. Dittmer. Mr. Dittmer stated there had been standing water but he dug a small line to allow the water to empty into the lake. Mrs. Potter also stated that she will be mulching by the Larkins sign.

Mr. Massey asked the Board if it would be alright for the Back Yard Group to leave their soccer goals in Morse Park after their practice and games. He explained the size and stated they would move them to where they wouldn't be in the way. Mrs. Potter stated that would be fine as long as they weren't in the way of mowing.

Mr. Massey made a motion for the Board to permit the use of soccer goals in Morse Park and for them to be stored in an area that would not hamper mowing. Mr. Watts seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Boys Camp Road Property and Summary of Carolina Climbers Coalition Event – Mr. Moe Bay

Mrs. Bay discussed that due to conversations earlier in the meeting, that the naming of the campground has been delayed. She walked the property. Mrs. Bay told the Board that the spoils bits have been decreased by 50% and that the camp area has been enlarged. The Board was pleased with this information.

Mrs. Bay also mentioned to the Board that she would be attending the Rutherford Art Guild in attempts to bring Arts & Culture to the Lake Lure area. The Board was excited about this endeavor.

Status of 2019 Geese Peace Egg Oiling Program – Mr. Ed Dittmer

Mr. Dittmer stated that the four volunteers went out three times and in those trips 67 eggs were found and 64 were oiled. The others had been destroyed by possible predators. He discussed the eggs found on shore and that there were 19 eggs at Rumbling Bald. He thanks the Resort for supplying the John Boat. To date there have been 67 eggs oiled compared to the 50 from last year.

Town Parks and Recreation Supervisor – Mrs. Melodie Potter

Mrs. Potter stated there was nothing new to add.

Town Staff Liaisons – Mr. Dean Givens and Mr. Garrett Murphy

Mr. Givens stated there was nothing new to add other than the irrigators would be turned back on soon.

Discussion & Recommendations from Guests, Residents & Voters

Mrs. Krejci took this time to mention events that are coming up (these can be found on the Town of Lake Lure website under the Community Calendar section). She discussed the Memorial Day event that would take place at the Veteran's Memorial in the Arcade parking area. This will take place on May 27th at 9am. Mrs. Krejci also reviewed the "On the Lake" publishing which covered the events happening in Lake Lure.

Input from Town Council Liaison – Commissioner Stephen Webber

Commissioner Webber mentioned that the dam had brought in \$943k to date for this fiscal year which is well over past years. He felt that this was due to the better dam operations with more staff. He discussed the Debris Boom that had been very effective during the last storm. He thanked Mr. Watts and Mrs. Potter for all of their efforts at the Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail with clean up. Mr. Webber discussed that the budget planning is coming up and that the Board should get with their department head to address any needs.

Adjournment

Mr. Watts made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:18 pm. Mr. Massey seconded and the motion and all were in favor.

Minutes were transcribed by Kat Canant, LLPD Admin Assistant

The next regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board meeting will be June 6, 2019 at 1:30 pm.

ATTEST:


Jim Walters, Chairman