



Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board **Regular Meeting**

December 3, 2020 via ZOOM

Call to Order

Chairman Mr. Jim Walters called to order the December 3, 2020 meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:34 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mr. Jim Walters, Chairman

Mr. Dan Bragdon, Alternate

Mr. Bill Massey

Mrs. Maureen Bay

Board Members absent:

Mr. Ed Dittmer, Vice Chairman (*Mr. Dittmer did join into the meeting later after some ZOOM technical issues*)

Mr. Martyn Watts

Mr. Larry Czajkoski

Mr. Dale Minick

Town Council and Officials present:

Councilman Christopher Patrick Bryant

Mayor Carol Pritchett

Other Town Staff Present:

Laura Krejci, Town of Lake Lure Communications Specialist

Ms. Dana Bradley – Town of Lake Lure Parks, Recreation and Trails Coordinator

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MEETING MINUTES

The Agenda for the December 3, 2020 meeting was reviewed. **Mr. Massey made a motion to approve the Agenda and Mr. Bragdon seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

The Minutes of the November 5, 2020 meeting were reviewed. **Mr. Massey made a motion to approve the Minutes and Mr. Bragdon seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

Mr. Walters took a moment to explain to the Board that due to the ZOOM meetings, roll call was called out with each member in attendance answering as well as and motions or presentations, names would be called for that member to present their topic. Mr. Walters reviewed other meeting changes that due to ZOOM, may change.

Discussion of Mr. Dittmer's and Mr. Czajkoski's Term Expirations – Mr. Walters

Mr. Walters spoke to the Board and stated he had spoken with both Mr. Dittmer and Mr. Czajkoski and both have asked to be reappointed to the Park & Recreation Board. Mr. Walters stated he would recommend this to the Town Council.

Discuss Filling Vacancies on the Board in Mr. Watts position and Mr. Minick's position – Mr. Walters

Mr. Walters discussed the resignation of Mr. Watts and Mr. Minick. Mr. Walters stated that Mr. Watts tendered his resignation and it was effective November 7, 2020, and that Mr. Minick's resignation was effective at the closing of today's meeting. Mr. Walters reviewed with the Board that Mr. Bragdon, the current alternate, was seeking fulltime status. There was agreement with the Board and Mr. Walters stated he would relay that to Town Council. This would leave the one fulltime position and the Alternate position available. The Board discussed applicants that had applied. Mr. Walters asked that each Board Member email him with their choice for the full time position and their choice for the Alternate position where he would at that time, send the recommendations to Town Council for their vote. The Board felt that they were fortunate to have such a portfolio of great candidates.

Parks & Recreation Board Members Presentation and Discussion

Parks, Recreation & Lake Report – Ms. Dana Bradley

Ms. Bradley reviewed the Parks, Recreation and Lake Report. (Attached) Ms. Bradley mentioned that at the last meeting there was an inquiry into the number of slips available at the Marina. Ms. Bradley found out that there were 19 available. She mentioned the Marina was doing very well.

Ms. Bay inquired if Ms. Bradley knew any information about the Chimney Rock Ingress/Egress planned meeting and if anyone could attend. Ms. Bradley mentioned that she did not know about the meeting however would find out who could attend.

Ms. Bradley reviewed that there had been 122 Volunteer hours during November and she was very happy with the work that had been completed.

Commissioner Bryant spoke regarding the CRSP meeting, he believed that only stakeholders were being invited at this time and that he would let the Board know when it was open to the public. Mrs. Bay thanked him and mentioned her desire to attend.

Buffalo Creek Park, Weed Patch Mountain & the Trail to Eagle Rock – Mr. Larry Czajkoski

Mr. Czajkoski was absent however Mr. Walters reviewed a letter he sent regarding his absence wherein he deferred to Ms. Bradley to give information to the Board. Ms. Bradley mentioned that she believes she found a corporation that offered grants, and Ms. Bradley felt that the Buffalo Creek Trailhead Parking area would qualify. Ms. Bradley also spoke with another company that had a program "2 for the Trails", wherein they donate 2% of their sales to assist with trail work. Ms. Bradley felt that the pedestrian bridge would qualify for this. Ms. Bradley was excited about both of these prospects. Ms. Bradley mentioned that there were 20 fallen trees removed from Weed Patch Mountain trails and the trails look great. She also mentioned that several signs need replaced and showed the Board the holes in the current signs that looked similar to pellet gun shots. Bailey Hornstein, with Rutherford County Coalition, who had joined the meeting via ZOOM, mentioned to the Board that the signs would be installed on their next work day. There was a workday on Buffalo Creek Park Trails wherein the leaves were blown off the trails and trees were removed.

Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail Park – Mr. Dittmer

Mr. Dittmer presented himself at the meeting and stated he was late due to ZOOM technical problems. Mr. Dittmer reviewed trail counter numbers for November showed 1500 people had used the trail and that October was about the same. He mentioned that he had just today send Dana a new worklist and that five trees needed removal.

Lake Lure Flowering Bridge – Mr. Bill Massey

Mr. Massey mentioned that the Flowering Bridge is lit up! He stated that people will even come out just before the timer so they can enjoy watching the bridge come to life. Mr. Massey reviewed the compost bins that will help not only with the compost but they will have information for the public on how the new system works. Mr. Massey thanked Ms. Bradley for the counter numbers and mentioned that for November, the bridge had been used 11,900 times. He mentioned the vandalized donation boxes are being repaired/rebuilt and that there were now additional cameras with Wi-Fi connectivity where members could keep an eye on the bridge from their homes. In January there are plans for a sleigh display. Mr. Massey stated that the bridge volunteers are pushing wearing a mask, even having them available for the public. Mr. Massey stated that they made the best of this year and thanked Mrs. Bay for the auction and the money that was raised and that it made a great deal of difference. There was discussion regarding the thieves that broke into the donation boxes. Mr. Massey stated they had not yet been caught but their photos were all over Facebook.

Lake Lure Public Golf Course – Mr. Dale Minick

Mr. Minick was not present.

Morse Park – Mr. Jim Walters

Mr. Walters thanked Town employees Melodie Potter and Carl Landrum for making the park look like Christmas. He discussed there had and continues to be a lot of traffic in the park and gazebo area.

Boys Camp Road Park Planning – Ms. Moe Bay

Mr. Walters mentioned that the topic of the BCR park has been put off until grants come through. Mrs. Bay asked if there was some sort of contingency plan such as using the park in the mean time for tent campers and for kayakers to put in at the river access. Ms. Bradley definitely felt that was a discussion that could take place and she will approach the topic with Mr. Givens. Mrs. Bay mentioned that the Rumble which generally occurs in February was considering a virtual bolder climb. She will bring more information to the Board in January.

Parks & Recreation Programs and Initiatives – Mr. Dan Bragdon

Mr. Bragdon mentioned the possibility of a free intern and that he had spoken with an App State representative and inquired about internships and how they would work. Mr. Bragdon will continue to seek legal information from the Town regarding interns as well as helping to develop a job description. Mr. Bragdon felt an intern could help push the 'pay to play' aspect for Lake Lure. Mr. Bragdon mentioned events such as Time Trials on the Trails, Tours of Dirty Dancing sites and other events could bring in concessionaire agreements with the Town.

Mr. Bragdon discussed ideas on how to get the river levels out to the community that could bring in tubing businesses. There was continued discussion on locations that cameras could be installed (on the church and on the dam) which would allow viewing of water levels by placing the information on the Town website. Mrs. Bay suggested the homes along the river may be a location for cameras if the residents agreed. There was discussion about the lack of signal for internet in these areas. Commissioner Bryant discussed internet options and locations where fiber lines are. He mentioned that Pangea has service at the Dam, but he was unsure if that was possible to put a camera at the dam.

Mr. Bragdon will continue getting information on both an internship and the possibility of publishing the river levels to the public. Mr. Massey discussed insurance for the groups to be charged and to include that in any fee structure.

Input from Town Council Liaison – Commissioner Christopher Patrick Bryant

Commissioner Bryant apologized to Mrs. Bay and the Flowering Bridge folks for neglecting to add the Auction information in his report to Council. He assured them he would mention it at the December meeting. Commissioner Bryant was delighted to hear about the numbers on all the trail counters supporting that even through COVID people are traveling and getting outdoors as much as they can. He mentioned that while COVID numbers have not gone up in Lake Lure, Rutherford County continues to climb in cases. Commissioner Bryant discussed that the amphitheater location and Morse Park have been great places for people to explore. Commissioner Bryant mentioned that the Row Ho Ho event was cancelled however there will be some rowers on the lake this weekend. Commissioner Bryant reviewed the Utility and Advisory Board (UAB) has been diligently planning the Phase 1 portion of work, to begin on the sewer system. He also has met with internet providers for future use in the Town. Commissioner Bryant discussed several providers that are interested in bringing service to the area.

Input from Mayor Carol Pritchett

Mayor Pritchett stated she was thrilled to see people coming to the Town's many outdoor areas and enjoying our Town even through COVID. She explained how Rutherford County is still in the "orange" zone which is next to highest of those affected with COVID. Mayor Pritchett spoke to the Board explaining that part of our restrictions are the wearing of masks and she stated that we can't totally put the responsibility on the police force but that by being an example out in public by adhering to the mask restrictions will remind others to wear a mask.

Input from Town Communications Specialist Laura Krejci

Mrs. Krejci thanked all the attendees at the recent Veterans Day event. Mayor Pritchett thanked Mrs. Krejci for spearheading the successful event and thanked Rumbling Bald's Jeff Geisler for helping with the event. Mrs. Krejci reviewed the successful Tree Lighting event at the lake.

Mr. Walters took a moment to thank the Park & Recreation Clerk Kat Canant for taking the Board through another year and thanked her for the hard work that's been done by her in keeping things in order even through the changes with COVID.

Mr. Walters also thanked Martyn Watts for his 17 years of serving as a member of the Park and Recreation Board and Mr. Dale Minick for his 5 years of service. Mr. Walters looks forward to whomever the Town Council decides to appoint to their Board.

Mr. Walters took a moment to wish everyone a happy holiday season.

Adjournment

Mr. Bragdon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:37 p.m. Mr. Dittmer seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

The next regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board meeting will be December 3, 2020 at 1:30 pm. It is currently scheduled to be a ZOOM internet meeting.

ATTEST:

Kat Canant for Jim Walters
Jim Walters, Chairman

Kat Canant
Kat Canant, Board Clerk

Dean Givens; Parks, Recreation, and Lake Director

DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation, and Lake

REPORT DATE:

November 30, 2020

PREPARED FOR:

Town Manager

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Current Parks, Recreation, and Lake Projects:

1. Boy's Camp Rd. Campground – <i>Not selected for PARTF funding – reapplying during next grant cycle</i>	2. Luremont Trails – <i>Trail scouted; permits filed; Plan approved by Parks and Rec. Board, info. sent to William Morgan for legal opinion</i>	3. Marina Phase II and Amphitheater Funding – <i>Working with TDA/ Rutherford Bound to keep projects moving forward</i>
4. Monetization Schedule for P&R Assets and Facilities – <i>New ideas being considered</i>	5. SOP for PR&L Maintenance – <i>Working with Melodie to create detailed SOP</i>	6. Morse Park Walking Path Expansion Grant – <i>To expand the pavement back to town hall</i>
7. Landscaping at Boardwalk/Marina – <i>Began laying out landscaping bed; plants/trees have been ordered</i>	8. CRSP Ingress/Egress – <i>Meetings planned to discuss how this is going to be done</i>	9. Repairs at Buffalo Creek Park – <i>Vandalism – Complete</i>
10. Permit for Filling in Half of Pond in Morse Park – <i>According to the Morse Park master plan</i>	11. Deep Water Launch – <i>Create for allowing equipment to launch during lake drawdown</i>	12. Morse Park Parking Expansion – <i>Working on plan to create more parking</i>
13. Locate Sewer Lines - <i>Dredging purposes</i>	14. Amphitheater Grass – <i>Reseeding Complete</i>	15. Golf Course Plan – <i>Golf Course study</i>
16. Naming Rights – <i>Working to establish policy</i>	17. Grant for Dredging – <i>Complete</i>	18. Seeking Grants for Buffalo Creek Park parking lot expansion

PR&TC ACTIVITIES:

1. Attended Basic Law Enforcement Training 5 nights a week
2. Checked requirements for RHI Legacy Foundation grants; BCP parking lot expansion would be a qualifying project – putting together initial packet (the pedestrian bridge for the Luremont Trail may also qualify)
3. Checked Buffalo Creek Park, Dittmer-Watts Nature Trails, and Weed Patch Mountain for damage
4. Led Buffalo Creek Park workday on 11/3 to install new signage on the shortcut trail, bouldering trail, and at the beginning of the Weed Patch Mountain Trail – 4 volunteers; 16 volunteer hours
5. Led Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail workday on 11/10 to remove trees that fell during wind storm – 5 volunteers; 15 volunteer hours
6. Led Buffalo Creek Park workday on 11/16 to blow leaves off the trail – 4 volunteers; 24 volunteer hours
7. Led Weed Patch Mountain Trail workday on 11/18 to remove 21 trees that had fallen between the Apple Wagon Road Access and Grey Rock Access – 7 volunteers; 45.5 volunteer hours
8. Recruited volunteers to clear fallen trees from Saddlewood and Grey Rock Emergency Access roads for Weed Patch Mountain Trail – 2 volunteers; 10 volunteer hours
9. Recruited volunteers to clear large trees down at markers 120 and 114 on Weed Patch Mountain Trail – 2 volunteers; 10 volunteer hours
10. Helped with layout and flagging for marina landscaping; plants/trees have been ordered
11. Planned upcoming trail maintenance days and recruited volunteers to help
12. Updates/revisions are in progress for the Lake Lure Naming Rights Policy
13. Checked trails counters at Dittmer-Watts Nature Trails, and the Flowering Bridge
14. Recruited volunteers to collect water samples – 2 volunteers; 12 volunteer hours
15. Utilized a total of 122.5 volunteer hours
16. Attended several meetings

P&R Maintenance Activities:

1. Performed regular ground maintenance activities at all areas
2. Cleaned parks, boat ramp, and marina
3. Installed new plexiglass and locks on Buffalo Creek Park kiosk; removed graffiti
4. Took down fall decorations; put out Christmas/holiday decorations
5. Began layout and flagging for marina landscaping
6. Installed gravel in wet area on Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail
7. Sprayed playground equipment and picnic tables with Clorox

Lake Activities:

1. Boat maintenance
2. Lake debris clean-up
3. Buoy replacement/maintenance
4. Commercial boat permit model complete and ready for approval in December

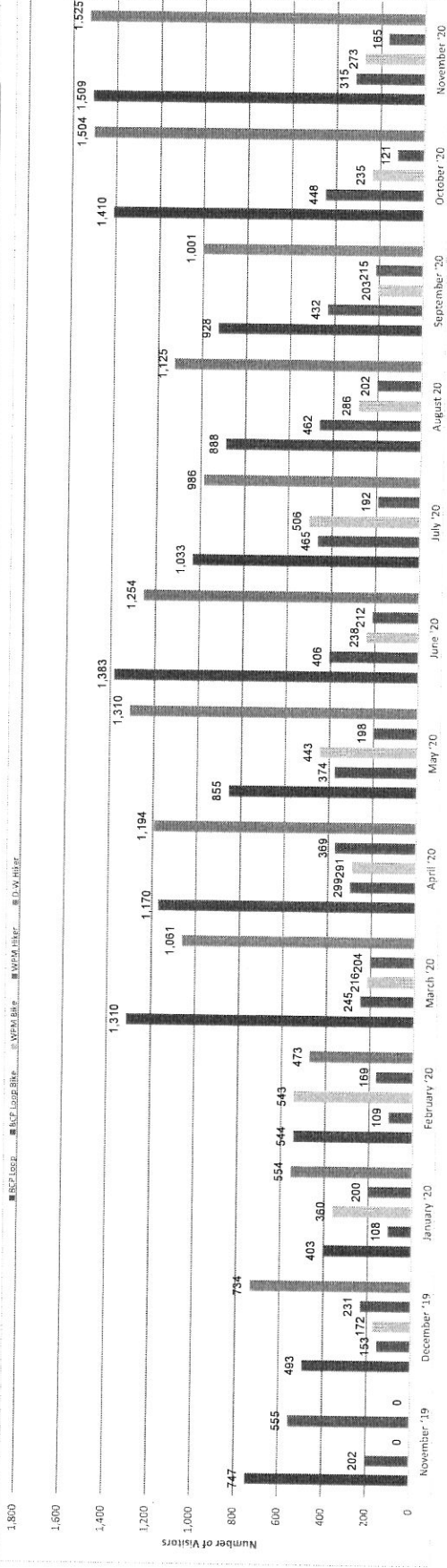
I. FOLLOW UP

1. Luremont Trail: Plan has been approved by Parks and Recreation Board; information sent to William Morgan for legal opinion
2. Boys Camp Road: We were not selected for PARTF funding this year; reapplying in 2021
3. Dredging Grant: Grant submitted; waiting on approval
4. Naming Rights Policy: Continuing to gather information for Naming Rights Policy for Town properties
5. Lake Lure Trails: Work days held on Lake Lure trails each month to ensure they are properly maintained

II. OTHER

Trail Counter Data - Buffalo Creek Park, Weed Patch Mountain, and Dittmer-Watts Trails: November 2020

Site	June '19	July '19	August '19	September '19	October '19	November '19	December '19	January '20	February '20	March '20	April '20	May '20	June '20	July '20	August '20	September '20	October '20	November '20	Days with data
BCP Loop	543	553	537	542	511	514	747	493	403	544	1,310	1,370	855	1,353	1,453	988	928	1,449	1,508
BCP Loop Bk	204	218	305	181	193	202	202	153	109	109	245	250	374	426	465	462	432	448	318
WPM Bk	346	191	165	203	227	227	-	172	360	543	216	281	443	238	506	286	203	235	307
WPM Hiker	238	278	225	378	555	555	555	231	200	168	204	389	188	212	182	202	215	121	275
Dittmer-Watts	771	722	722	722	859	859	859	734	554	473	1,091	1,184	1,310	1,254	888	1,125	1,301	1,504	1,525



Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Days with data
2018	LL Flowering Bridge						8,412	23,829	17,368	11,199	14,662	7,051	4,006	206
2019	LL Flowering Bridge	1,248	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					173
2020	LL Flowering Bridge							7,798	16,105	17,342	17,876	11,900		160