

Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2013

Call to Order

Chairman Ed Dittmer called the regular meeting of the parks & Recreation Board to order at 1:33 P.M. on Thursday, December 5, 2013.

Roll Call

- Board Members present: Ed Dittmer, Linda Turner, Jonathan Hinkle, and Martyn Watts.
- Board Members absent: Todd Dunnuck, Larry Czajkoski
- Town Officials present: Commissioner Diane Barrett, Parks & Recreation Supervisor Melodie Potter, Environmental Management Officer Clint Calhoun

Approval of meeting agenda and November 17 meeting minutes

Linda Turner motioned to accept agenda as presented, Jonathan Hinkle seconded, motion carried.

Martyn Watts had two corrections to November 17 meeting minutes: 4th page, Fountain or Aerator section, 3rd & 4th lines of first sentence, change to read "45 foot fountain spray to oxygenate the immediate area around the fountain." 6th line, 4th sentence: change "cable" to "pipe". With no other corrections made, Linda motioned to accept amended November meeting minutes, Martyn seconded, motion carried.

Open Issues

1. Status of Buffalo Creek Park development:

Clint Calhoun gave maps to attendees featuring Buffalo Creek Park (BCP) trail system, sections of trails completed/almost completed; BCP trails flag line, property lines, etc. Trail builder (Trail Dynamics) estimates three weeks to complete trail grading and then begin construction of two wooden bridges where needed. After work is completed the project team will walk trail to review work done. Due to topography and terrain, stacked loops have been installed along most difficult portions of trail. Trail Dynamics wants this trail to be a "showcase" trail due to the terrain design. Trail construction to the west (second phase) is currently awaiting approval of plans for this section in order to obtain \$200,000 RTP grant. Clint stated several biking clubs are interested in trying out the trail as soon as it is opened; soft opening being considered for mid-January. Amy Allamong is pursuing using "dirty crush run" material on the Type 1 trail areas and parking lots. Town is still awaiting a response from Wyndham Resorts management regarding a lot conveyance agreement for the needed public trailhead parking lot. Amy is recruiting volunteers to place grass matting along steep trail slope areas to stabilize soil.

2. Status of Flowering Bridge project:

Bill Miller has resigned his position on the Parks & Recreation Board due to a demand on his time from other activities. He will, however, attend P & R Board meetings once a quarter to provide an update on this project. His position on the Board will need to be filled. Street lamps will be mounted on the bridge in the next few weeks. Christmas decorations and lights are in place on the bridge. The Flowering Bridge Board is working on plans to extend the paver path and continue landscaping to Boys Camp Road.

3. Status of Morse Park enhancement project:

Jonathan Hinkle stated the wooden fence around the above ground gas tank will be finished next week. The Board needs to decide what plants are to be planted around the fence to landscape the area. Ed asked Martyn and Melodie to meet and plan what plants to select and have them installed. Funds are still available from the Marina Project to complete this landscaping.

4. Status of planning for aeration/fountain for beach/marina/Morse Park Gardens pond:

Clint contacted people in the business of fountains and aeration to get information, but has not received their responses yet; he will follow up. The Lake Advisory Board has not taken up this issue yet. We need to get an agreed upon plan underway before spring.

5. Canada Geese aversion/culling project:

Mayor Keith has been contacted regarding a possible solution to this problem with a novel idea of using remote controlled drone helicopters or similar equipment to harass the geese to move on. Since using dogs for aversion has not been successful due to the size of the lake, this suggestion has possibilities. Further investigation is needed. The Board asked Ed to have Larry Czajkoski look into this possible aversion technique. Oiling of eggs will continue as the primary means of helping to control geese population..

6. Parkland maintenance punchlist:

Melodie stated they are continuing to haul away tree debris or put them through chipper and spread chips. Public Works is putting up Christmas decorations in town.

New Issues

7. Morse park wetland maintenance:

David Lee has treated the privet in the wetland areas and performed a second application to cover any privet missed during the initial treatment. Clint stated the honeysuckle will be burned in an upcoming controlled burn of a portion of the wetland area this winter.

8. Municipal golf course:

Martyn stated that he had spoken with the Municipal Golf Course concessionaire Dale Minick regarding placing additional trees along the 1st and 2nd fairways that border the highway. Dale has been able to get 5 red maples in 5 gallon pots at a reasonable price and will place them along the highway. He will also cut down the large pine tree in the area that is dying. He will spray or bushhog the kudzu to remove it from the bank along the highway. Martyn raised the desire to work further with Dale on behalf of the Board to plant trees elsewhere on the course over the coming years to beautify the course.

Question was asked about what efforts will be or are being done to market the trail Systems in Town. TDA and the Rumbling Bald Resort are and will continue to market the trails to promote tourism and economic development.

Adjournment

Ed Dittmer adjourned the meeting at 2:40 P.M.

The next Parks & Recreation Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2014 at 1:30PM.

Minutes taken by Diane Barrett, Town Commissioner