



**Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board Meeting
March 2, 2017 Minutes**

Call to Order

Chairman Jim Walters called to order the March 2, 2017 meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:30pm

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Jim Walters
Ed Dittmer
Larry Czajkoski
Diane Barrett
Dale Minick
Martyn Watts
Bill Massey

Board Members absent:

Town Officials present:

Town Manager Ron Nalley
Town Council Liaison Stephen Webber

Others present:

ROC Trail Coordinator Hallie Zeedik
Town of Lake Lure Liaison – Clint Calhoun
Town Parks and Recreation Supervisor – Melodie Potter

Guest(s):

Mrs. Fran Nordt-Resident of Lake Lure

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MEETING MINUTES

The Agenda for the March 2, 2017 meeting was reviewed. **A motion was made to accept the agenda by Ed Dittmer with the addition; and seconded by Bill Massey; all were in favor.**

The Minutes of the February 2, 2016 meeting were reviewed. There were a few grammatical suggestions made and all were changed. **A motion was made by Diane Barrett to approve the minutes as corrected; the motion was seconded by Ed Dittmer; all were in favor.**

Chairman Jim Walters acknowledged guest Fran Nordt and suggested she begin the meeting with her topic.

Mrs. Nordt discussed the idea for fountains at Morse Park. She thought they would be nice ascetically and help to keep the ponds from smelling. She suggested charging the wedding photographers for using the park. The Board was not in agreement for charging other charges. Melodie Potter stated that David Arrowwood said the previously suggested culvert for the ponds would not work because there wouldn't be sufficient gravity to feed the water through. Melodie has quotes for fountains. The Board discussed fountain ideas such as solar powered pumps since gravity fed fountains would not work. Jim Walters thanked Mrs. Nordt for her suggestion and added that the Board would consider her idea.

Geese Mitigation for 2017 – Larry Czajkoski

Larry Czajkoski suggested the Board begin their discussion regarding mitigation since spring weather had already approached. Larry asked the Board if they would like to help with the egg oiling, to please let him know. Oiling of the eggs should begin in early to mid-April.....with the initial recon missions in late March. Clint reminded the Board that the USDA will not assist in population control unless the Board can document harassment efforts. It was discussed that per Andy Moore who spoke to the Board in late 2015 regarding the geese that any harassment efforts had to be documented thoroughly. After a discussion regarding mitigation and harassment efforts, it was decided that Larry and Ed will coordinate the oiling efforts and Dale Minick will look into a grape Kool-Aid mix that the geese would stay away from due to the smell. It was suggested this to be sprayed in grassy areas where geese were a problem (ie: Pool Creek Picnic Park, Morse Park) if/as necessary. It was agreed that the Board would look into the population of geese this year and recognize population trending to see if further harassment efforts were needed.

Dittmer-Watts Park and Trail System –Ed Dittmer

Ed updated the Board on the signage. Ed stated that the trail head tri-sign was up. Thirty-six signs are in the process of going up. Ed is working with Eric Kunath on the split rail fencing that will go up to border the school at the meadow area.

Lake Lure Public Golf Course – Dale Minick

Dale brought the Board up to date with February numbers stating that in February they experienced their highest total of golfers of any year since they've operated the course. There were 274 golf rounds and 18 foot golf rounds. February 20th they began aerification of the greens. Lake Lure Classical Academy also began their new Golf Team, which currently has all male members. There was discussion on how to get more females involved and that there are many college scholarships for females in golf and that somehow this should be promoted to the school. Rumbling Bald "Boys Night Out" group has begun playing every Tuesday evening now.

Buffalo Creek Park and the Trail to Eagle Rock – Larry Czajkoski

Larry updated the Board that the trail now has 6.7 miles completed and that the total trail construction will have added an additional .5 miles to it, now making the total Trail Extension 7.5 miles. The target for completion is the end of April, with a soft opening planned for summer and the formal opening sometime in August. Larry also mentioned a “spur” trail that is a possibility and that would take a route towards the base of Eagle Rock allowing hikers to travel through a cave like structure. There would be no cost to the town for the construction of the spur trail as the land is State Park property. CMLC is working with State Parks on the spur trail and CMLC is coordinating funding efforts.

The eastern dozer line “fix” cost to the town was \$16,400. This was to repair and rehabilitate the trail and repair potential erosion issues that were created by the NCFS clearing a fire line in efforts to save homes. Peter Barr is seeking reimbursement for this cost from the Golden Leaf Foundation Disaster Recovery Relief Act. There has been a claim filed with the NCFS in attempt to get reimbursement for this cost as well. They’re hoping for one or the other reimbursement vehicle.

Buffalo Creek Park now consist of 1500 acres. Larry will meet with several key players in early April (day & time TBD) to discuss items like GeoMapping, trails, use cases, emergency access points, signage, Camping, and other topics including public awareness and advertising this incredible park which will be an important asset to the town and a destination trail. Jim Walters mentioned discussing with CMLC and State Parks what the name of the park would be, hoping that Weed Patch would be a part of the name due to the history of this area.

The western dozer line has been undergoing repairs by the NCFS. Larry discussed the repairs and mentioned that while there were some areas that were well repaired, there were still many areas of concern. He was unsure if NCFS had completed their work. He has asked that Fire Chief Ron Morgan look into this. Larry asked Clint if he would meet with CMLC’s David Lee to take a look at the concerns Larry mentioned and give Larry his expert opinion. There was discussion on the next steps to take if the NCFS considered the job complete.

Hallie Zeedik discussed with the Board that she has installed the counter, however she is having issues with the software. She’ll work on this to get up to date numbers.

Pool Creek Picnic Park – Diane Barrett

Diane distributed a map on the area. She suggested a slide and play area for the children at PCPP. Diane discussed possible trails bordering the creek area, traveling up along the ridge up to Asa Gray. Martyn further pointed out where proposed trails could be directed with impressive views. The Board discussed the trails and assistance if easements are needed. There was discussion of how the trails could be built solely on town property. Larry mentioned that CMLC’s Peter Barr would be a great resource for planning this trail building. Ed mentioned it would be wonderful and a part of the planned Town Center. Larry will get with Peter Barr and coordinate a meeting with Diane and Martyn to discuss trail design, etc. and then obtain trail construction quotes as appropriate from the two trail builder groups the town’s worked with in the past.

Martyn discussed building a deck structure by the Police Boat House for visitors to enjoy. Commissioner Webber suggested waiting on planning anything for this area until the ABC Store is moving and the town decides on the future of the building by Pool Creek Picnic Park. The Board

thanked Melodie and Andi for the great job they did on building the entrance berm going into Pool Creek Picnic Park. The Board members remarked how nice it looked. Melodie stated that the sign will be going in that area as well.

Flowering Bridge – Bill Massey

The Gazebo is completed and they are putting the framework on the Arbor. They are still fundraising for the next phase which is an additional arbor kiosk. Bill discussed an irrigation issue they're having with the smaller lines. He discussed that this is a focus right now to cover the west end. He discussed taking three metered lines and enlarging the pipe and running it through one larger meter. The Board discussed the irrigation plans and possibilities for improving it.

Morse Park – Jim Walters and Melodie Potter

Jim mentioned that dredging will be wrapping up soon and they will be fixing the areas that were damaged in the dredging process. Melodie mentioned mulching will begin this month. There was discussion of the paving of the pathway.

Town Council Liaison – Commissioner Stephen Webber

Commissioner Webber discussed the aerators that were in the lake and were damaged. He stated that that cost will not come out of the Park & Recreation budget but possibly the Lake Operations budget. He also asked about putting a wooden screen around the Port-a-Johns by the Marina. He did tell the Board that the new restroom plans were on the CIP.

Town Parks and Recreation Supervisor – Melodie Potter

Melodie secured three pickle ball proposals dealing with fixing the current tennis courts as well as the possibility of rebuilding courts as well as relocation of courts. Melodie had to close down one of the two courts by the Visitors Center due to a sinking of the pavement. She's removed the net and put signs out.

New Business

Hallie discussed the Young's Mountain trails. She stated that there needs to be a protection act for the Green Salamanders before the trails are built. There was discussion regarding this.

Adjournment

Jim Walters requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ed Dittmer made a motion to adjourn, Martyn Watts seconded the motion, the board was unanimously in favor and Chairman Walters formally adjourned the meeting at 4:01pm

Minutes were transcribed by Town Liaison Kat Canant

The next Parks & Recreation Board meeting will be April 6, 2017 at 1:30pm