



Lake Lure Lake Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
Lake Lure Town Hall
September 13, 2021

Call to Order

Chairman Mark Helms called to order September 13, 2021 Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 3:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mr. Mark Helms, Chairman
Mr. Ken Golliher
Ms. Sonya Ledford

Mr. Michael Yelton, Vice Chairman
Mr. Gary Hasenfus

Absent:

Mr. David Lusk
Mr. Bill Bay

Town Council Members & Town Representatives present:

Council Liaison - Commissioner John Kilby
Parks, Recreation & Lake Director Dean Givens
Parks, Recreation and Trails Coordinator Dana Bradley

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda for the September 13, 2021 Board Meeting was reviewed. **Mr. Hasenfus made a motion to approve the Agenda, Mr. Yelton seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes for the August 2, 2021 Board Meeting were reviewed. **Ms. Ledford made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Hasenfus seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

New Business

Discussion and Decision of Horsepower Limitations

Chairman Helms opened the discussion retracing the past meetings discussions. Chairman Helms felt that even after all the remarks from Board Members and all the studies Board Members had done to help come to a conclusion, he added that driver inattentiveness seems to be what he mainly sees on the lake. Mr. Yelton mentioned that the Town has plans to address safety regulations as boaters come to purchase their permits. There was discussion regarding issuing a license for the boater to carry. It was also discussed that VRBO's and the like, have the renter read and sign a rules of the lake if they will be boating. The Board discussed the software program that the Town uses and felt it could use improvement which would force the applicant to list the size motor they have as well as other pertinent information that would be helpful for the Town to have for their records. Mr. Givens spoke on the software and Ms. Ledford mentioned that putting red asterisks in the areas that the Town needs information, would force the applicant to answer before moving on in the program. There was other discussion to help the Town get information, but not cause more work for clerks.

Commissioner Kilby stated that the thought while these discussions have always been about safety and while there is no magic answer, we needed to start somewhere. There was discussion regarding accidents on the lake and that from memory, Chairman Helms thought they were all from boaters not paying attention, and not just speed. There was further discussion regarding the size of the lake and the number of boaters. Board members felt that putting limits on motor size now would be in the best interest of all boaters. There was a discussion regarding enforcement of motor size and Mr. Givens spoke of policing of the lake. There was continued discussion regarding safety, policing and man power.

Chairman Helms felt that the simplest decision that could be made at this time, which would in effect, help with safety as well, was to put future limitations in place. There was discussion regarding the Grandfathering in of motors that have already been registered with homeowners that may fall outside of the proposed new limits. It was agreed that those that are currently residents that may have a motor over the new limit would be grandfathered in. Mr. Helms felt that there were only 12 that fell into that category. Additionally, the Board discussed that the Grandfathering would only be for current owned boats, and would not pertain to new boats purchased. The Board reviewed findings that fellow Board Members worked on regarding the number of boats with engines greater than 250hp and 300hp. There was discussion that if a decision continues to be put off, the problem may be greater. The Board felt that if the Town put safety measures into place, such as a safety classes for all boaters on the lake yearly, continued policing and restricting horsepower limits, the result would be a positive result for all boaters.

Software was discussed again, with the thought of keeping better and more accurate records of boats on the lake and Mr. Givens was in agreement to look into it but he wanted to put that to the side and will look at it towards the end of the year. There was continued discussion regarding horsepower limits and again, the safety of the boat drivers. Each Board Member discussed a horsepower they felt would be a positive effect for the lake safety.

A Motion was made by Mr. Gary Hasenfus to recommend to the Marine Commission to limit the horsepower of an outboard engine not to exceed 300HP and in addition, no boat on Lake Lure shall have more than one (1) outboard motor. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Michael Yelton and all Board Members were in favor.

Report from Lake Operations – Dean Givens

Mr. Givens reviewed Ms. Dana Bradley's monthly report. He mentioned that his entire team has been busy cleaning the parks, trails and lake. Mr. Givens mentioned that he had picked up the new boat that will be used to assist in clean up after heavy storms. He explained the operation of the boat and that it had a 500pd lifting power as well as a skimmer and rake bucket as well as many other features. He informed the Board of the new barge being built which will be able to lift the heavy logs from the water onto the barge. There was discussion about the success these two units would bring especially after storms. Mr. Givens mentioned the boat and barge were paid for from Parks, Rec and Lake Budget and a loan had been secured for same. There was continued discussion among the Board of the positive results these vessels would be to the Town. Mr. Givens also mentioned that Mr. Tim Edwards is currently using the barge in the river area by the boom to continue cleaning up after the storms. Dredging would continue as soon as Council approves same.

Report from Council Liaison – Commissioner John Kilby

Mr. Kilby had nothing further and thanked the Board for their decision on the recommendation.

Fishery & Ecosystem – Mr. Gary Hasenfus

Mr. Hasenfus mentioned he was beginning to look for Christmas tree vendors that may help him get trees to use for the fisheries. Mr. Kilby suggested the Asheville Farmers Market.

Emergency Preparedness & Response – Mr. David Lusk

Mr. Lusk was not present.

Dredging & Watershed Stabilization – Mr. Michael Yelton

Mr. Yelton had nothing further.

Regulations & Law Enforcement – Ms. Sonya Ledford

Ms. Ledford had nothing further.

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Hasenfus made a motion to adjourn the Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 4:49 p.m. Mr. Golliher seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

Minutes were transcribed by Kat Canant, Board Clerk

The next regular meeting of the Lake Advisory Board will be October 4, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Kat Canant for Mark Helms Mark Helms, Chairman

Kat Canant Kat Canant, Board Clerk