



Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board
Regular Meeting
February 3, 2022

Call to Order

Chairman Mr. Jim Walters called to order the February 3, 2022 meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:34 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mr. Jim Walters, Chairman

Mrs. Maureen Bay

Mr. Mark Hoek, Alternate

Mr. Ed Dittmer, Vice Chairman

Mr. Bill Massey

Mr. Larry Czajkoski

Mr. Dan Bragdon

Mr. Robin Worcester

Board Members absent:

Town Council and Officials present:

Commissioner Patrick Bryant

Commissioner David DiOrio

Other Town Staff and Contributors Present:

Mr. Dean Givens – Parks, Recreation and Lake Director

Ms. Samantha Brooks – AmeriCorps Trails Coordinator

Agenda and Meeting Minutes

The Agenda for the February 3, 2022 meeting was reviewed. **Mr. Hoek made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Massey seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

The Minutes of the January 6, 2022 meeting were reviewed. **Mr. Massey made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Bragdon seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

Parks & Recreation Board Members Presentation and Discussion

Parks, Recreation & Lake Report – Mr. Dean Givens

Mr. Givens reviewed the monthly report. He advised the Board that there was a grant awarded to the Town in the amount of \$750,000 with a match from the Town in the amount of \$250,000 for dredging this year (2022). Mr. Givens discussed the permits as well as the areas that will be dredged in which he mentioned the main parts of the lake, but not the coves or beach and bay area. There was a question about the Pool Creek Bridge lights in which it was mentioned that Public Works Direction Dean Lindsey

was over this. There was a question regarding the new non-motorized ramp and the rip-wrap. Mr. Givens explained why it was there however he would check it to make sure it's what was best for this area and see if there are any other options. Mr. Dittmer questioned the progress of the Open Space Plan and Mr. Givens replied that it has been put on the back burner since there is so much going on that needs attention. There was a brief discussion that followed. Mr. Givens updated the Board on the new Green Space which is currently being used for walking, biking and dog walking. He mentioned everything else is on hold until the Council's plan of having a committee oversee future plans. He did mention there will be signs put out identifying the land as now Lake Lure Green Space as well as the location of the Parks, Rec & Lake Department. There will also be signs for "no golfing". Mr. Givens discussed the Buffalo Creek parking area and finding options that are available. The total cost will be somewhere around \$44 – \$45,000 for the graded and compacted parking area.

Mr. Czajkoski spent a moment thanking Ms. Bradley for all the work she's done to bring this plan to fruition. Mr. Czajkoski reviewed the history of the parking area.

There was discussion of a new trail possibility by the Carolina Climbers Collation (CCC) that Ms. Bradley and Mike Reardon had been discussing. After a letter was read by Mr. Reardon and further discussion it was mentioned that Ms. Bradley would need to make sure the trail is planned well for the area and use that Mr. Reardon was predicting. There was a discussion that followed. Overall the Board mentioned they were in favor of the concept of the trail but need to make sure the trail is approved by the Town of Lake Lure.

Green Space – Mr. Mark Hoek, Alternate

Mr. Hoek reviewed the sub-committees ideas along with a map of the Green Space area. He reviewed the ideas on how to use the space which would possibly include many recreational areas such as a dog park and a small golfing area as well as foot golf. There was further discussion. Mr. Givens mentioned that there will be no further action taken on the Green Space until he gets direction from Commissioners. He reviewed that Council will set up a committee with various people from various businesses, locals, etc. who will help solidify the direction the Green Space should go. The Town's attorney William Morgan will give direction for the development of the steering committee. There was further discussion. Chairman Walters was very positive about the direction the committee would come from all walks of life and give the Town a positive direction to take.

Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail Park – Mr. Ed Dittmer

Mr. Dittmer mentioned that the trail counter numbers were good and the trails were being used even through the winter months. Ms. Brooks mentioned that there were several dead trees that were removed.

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

Ms. Brooks mentioned that the work day was cancelled and moved to February 15th. The trail counter numbers were low due to the heavy snow. Mr. Czajkoski reviewed the parking lot that was approved and mentioned it would hold 40 to 50 vehicles. He also thanked the many volunteers that continue to work on trail maintenance. Ms. Brooks reviewed the work days and those coming up. There was also discussion of a hiker sign in wherein a hiker/biker could either complete a short form with their name and where they're from, or it was suggested to use some type of electronic record keeper, that would help the Town understand whose using the trails. An inexpensive kiosk was mentioned to house the information box.

Lake Lure Flowering Bridge – Mrs. Mo Bay

Mrs. Bay informed the Board that the paver bricks will be back on sale from May 1st to June 20th for \$160 (normally \$200). Maintenance has continued on the bridge through winter months. Mrs. Bay mentioned that they are planning another art auction. Mrs. Bay also discussed that through the events last year the Board has raised \$26,000 which will go to the Education Center that they are building at the east end of the bridge on the current parking area. She mentioned they have applied for grants as well. She also mentioned that the counter numbers were very good for last year and the Christmas lights will be on through February 22nd. Mrs. Bay also mentioned the Carolina Climbers Coalition will have their “Rumble” the weekend of March 4th, 5th and 6th. They will be camping in Morse Park and using the Town Hall. Commissioner Bryant mentioned he had not seen any permits on this event.

Morse Park – Mr. Jim Walters

Chairman Walters remarked about how well the work on the Morse Park Gazebo is coming along. He also mentioned that grants are being sought for the paving of the walking area around the amphitheater area and the river walkway. There was a discussion regarding the hole being dug in Morse Park by a bulldozer. Commissioner DiOrio explained that when the manholes were first constructed, Morse Park was actually a part of the lake. Over a period of time the silt came and covered the manholes that were once under the lake, and they are now being replaced as a part of the sewer work. There was a discussion that followed.

Programs and Initiatives – Mr. Dan Bragdon

Mr. Bragdon had nothing new to report.

Input from Town Council Liaison – Commissioner Christopher Patrick Bryant

Commissioner Bryant reviewed the lake was being raised up to 6ft as well as reviewed the plans of a committee being formed to help the Town on the design and purpose of the Green Space. The Town Council and Interim Town Manager are providing a new education tool for our Advisory Boards and how they communicate with the Chairman and how the Chairman will relate to the Council. This is a training program through the UNC School of Government. There was a brief discussion that followed.

Other Comments:

Commissioner DiOrio briefly spoke on the committee that will be formed for the use purpose of the Green Space, mentioning that this land has a natural beauty that needs to be preserved and having a diverse committee will help the Town in the planning of this area.

Adjournment

Mr. Dittmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:07 p.m. Mrs. Bay seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

Minutes were transcribed by Kat Canant

The next regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board meeting will be March 3, 2022 at 1:30 pm. It is currently scheduled to be held at the Lake Lure Municipal Center.

ATTEST:


Jim Walters, Chairman


Kat Canant, Board Clerk



Dean Givens; Parks, Recreation, and Lake Director

DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation, and Lake

REPORT DATE:

PREPARED FOR:

January 31, 2022

Town Manager

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Current Parks, Recreation, and Lake Projects:

1. Boy's Camp Rd. Campground – <i>New master plan has been adopted</i>	2. Luremont Trails – <i>Trail scouted; permits filed; Plan approved by Parks and Rec. Board, legal opinion received; waiting on legal decision</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. Updating Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan – <i>Working with Ed Dittmer and Moe Bay on updates</i>	6. Morse Park Walking Path Expansion Grant – <i>To expand the pavement back to town hall</i>
7. Morse Park Master Plan update which includes the design of the amphitheater and additional parking – <i>New plan has been adopted</i>	8. Replacement of boardwalk/seawall at the gazebo – <i>In progress</i>	9. Buffalo Creek Park parking lot expansion – <i>Funding obtained; working on plans to begin installation</i>
10. Permit for Filling in Half of Pond in Morse Park – <i>Permits denied</i>	11. Deep Water Launch – <i>Waiting on final approval</i>	12. Finishing the paver walkway from the small beach house to the big beach house – <i>In progress</i>
13. Island Creek spoils site	14. Non-motorized Boat Ramp Replacement – <i>Complete</i>	15. 2022 Dredging Grant – <i>Approved</i>

PR&LD ACTIVITIES:

1. Oversee daily operations for Parks, Rec, & Lake
2. Attended multiple staff/public meetings
3. Attended multiple project meetings
4. Worked on multiple projects
 - Deepwater Launch – Waiting on last permit
 - Walkway pavers in front of beach – Underway
 - New seawall at gazebo – Underway
 - Mining permit – Waiting on permitting
 - Police in-service training 2022 – Completed 18 hrs.
 - New permitting software – RecDesk
 - Replacing boat ramp at the ABC Store parking area – Completed
 - Dredge spoils area preparation

PR&TC ACTIVITIES:

1. Secured funding for the Buffalo Creek Park parking lot
2. Entered in marina boat slip renewals into the spreadsheet
3. Moved slip renters requesting different slips
4. Continued filing the commercial applications
5. Sent out commercial model applicant approval letters
6. Continued training with LLPD
7. Continued updating the Parks, Recreation, and Lake Department Standard Operating Procedures
8. Began training on new permitting software - RecDesk
9. Organized a Dittmer Watts workday on 1/11 to remove dead trees – 6 volunteers; 18 volunteer hours
 - a. Next workday planned for 2/22 at 8 am
10. Cancelled the Buffalo Creek Park workday due to snow; trail is in great shape with no reported trees down
 - a. Next workday planned for 2/15 at 8 am
11. Organized a Weed Patch Mountain workday on 1/11 and 1/12 to remove dangerous trees – 4 volunteers; 22 volunteer hours
 - a. Next workday planned for 2/9 at 8 am
12. Planned upcoming trail maintenance days and recruited volunteers to help
13. Checked Buffalo Creek Park, Dittmer-Watts Nature Trails, and Weed Patch Mountain for damage
14. Utilized volunteer to collect water samples from streams – 1 volunteer; 6.5 volunteer hours
15. Utilized a total of **46.5 volunteer hours**
16. Attended several meetings

P&R Maintenance Activities:

1. Took down Christmas decorations
2. Removed snow from Morse Park and marina walkway
3. Removed a dangerous tree from Weed Patch Mountain trail
4. Trimmed trees in front of Town Hall
5. Performed regular ground maintenance activities at all areas
6. Cleaned parks, boat ramp, and marina
7. Sprayed playground equipment and picnic tables with bleach

Lake Activities:

1. Lake will begin to refill on February 1

1. FOLLOW UP

1. Open Space Plan: Will continue working with Ed Dittmer and Moe Bay to update the Open Space Plan
2. Luremont Trail: Plan has been approved by Parks and Recreation Board; legal opinion received; working on next steps
3. Naming Rights Policy: Continuing to gather information for Naming Rights Policy for Town properties
4. Lake Lure Trails: Work days held on Lake Lure trails each month to ensure they are properly maintained

2. OTHER

1. Marina Slips Available: 0
 - i. Resident Waiting List: 40
 - ii. Non-resident Waiting List: 48