

Lake Lure Lake Advisory Board Regular Meeting

February 7, 2022

Call to Order

Chairman Mark Helms called to order February 7, 2022 Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 3:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mr. Mark Helms, Chairman

Mr. David Lusk

Mr. Gary Hasenfus

Mr. Ken Golliher

Mr. Bill Bay

Absent:

Ms. Sonya Ledford

Mr. Michael Yelton, Vice Chairman

Town Council Members & Town Representatives present:

Council Liaison - Commissioner David DiOrio Parks, Recreation & Lake Director Dean Givens

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda for the February 7, 2022 Board Meeting was reviewed. **Mr. Lusk made a motion to** approve the Agenda. **Mr. Golliher seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes for the January 10, 2021 Board Meeting were reviewed. Mr. Hasenfus made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Lusk seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

Report from Lake Operations – Dean Givens

Mr. Givens reviewed the monthly report as well as brought the Board up to date on the Green Space area wherein he will be moving his officer and staff to this month. He mentioned David Lusk is remodeling the old golf course office. There was discussion of the lake fill schedule. Commissioner

DiOrio explained that the water level will not go up further until the contractors have completed the manhole replacement/repair. He mentioned there were 38 completed and 62 that either needed refurbishing or those that could not be repaired would be removed.

Mr. Givens told the Board that the Town had been awarded a \$750k grant with a \$250k match from Town for dredging. He mentioned that they will dredge as much as possible. He will seek approval from Council to dredge as during the summer months, explaining that the dredging work would occur on one half of the waterway, still allowing boaters on the other half. Mr. Givens also discussed the new boat permitting program that they will be testing for a trial period.

Report from Council Liaison – Commissioner DiOrio

Commissioner DiOrio began by explain the difference between Statutory Boards and Advisory Boards. He commented that Advisory Boards are "born from voices of the community". He further reviewed how Advisory Boards should seek what the community as a whole desires. He discussed how a healthy rotation should occur on these Boards as well as the goals they should develop and see what works and what isn't working. Commissioner DiOrio discussed a handbook that will be coming out for board members.

Discussion of Lake Use Regulations - Chairman Mark Helms

Chairman Helms reviewed a handout created by Commission DiOrio (Attached to Minutes) titled Marine Commission Concerns – Lake Advisory Board. The Board discussed the topics, mainly community policing that would be residents volunteering to oversee boaters and engaging them to discuss rules of the lake. The discussion continued, with the thought of a title of the program "Lake Lure Safety Patrol". This would include a boat that would have items such a gas can, battery cables and items one might need for a stranded boat. Mr. Givens would oversee infractions when reported and there was discussion of a maximum 3 warning rule. There was a discussion about liability to the Town. Mr. Givens discussed pros and cons of the program. There was further discussion regarding a safety patrol and what part they would play on the lake. The Board wanted to look further into this and legalities, but overall felt it would be a good idea to inform boaters on the lake of lake rules and for boaters to see a Safety Patrol on the lake. There was discussion of a patrol boat with Safety Patrol labeled on the side. It was mentioned that the safety boat could not 'legally' pull a boat over, wherein Commissioner DiOrio mentioned that the Marine Commission could give authority to pull over.

The Board also discussed a boater training program that all boaters (drivers) would have to take prior to going on the lake and driving a boat. This was discussed for VRBO's and Livery's as well. There was continued discussion on how to assure VRBO's with boats would know they had to take the training program. Mr. Givens mentioned that once the training class was completed the student could print out a certification to carry with them while boating. Overall, the Board felt this was a very good idea. Mr. Givens was questioned as to where the money for citations went to. Mr. Givens informed the Board that the money collected from citations written on the lake went to his department.

The Board continued to discuss that they wanted to review the Lake Use Regulations as a whole and to do so over the next few weeks and meet back up at the next meeting to review. Commissioner DiOrio suggested several items that needed review during this process. The Board discussed if they really needed all the different permits that were currently offered, or to simplify the process all around.

There was discussion regarding boats that were not moved out of their boat houses during the 2023 sewer pipe laying. Even boats that were not in the water but in a boat house over the lake, would need moved. The Board discussed removal of the boats at the owner's expense and mentioned that it was important that all property owners were aware of this process. There was continued discussion regarding this process.

It was decided by the Board that they would take the Lake Use Regulations home and review them with all that was discussed in mind, simplifying processes and educating the public on safety rules.

Commissioner DiOrio was happy with this process and asked the Board to keep the simplifying and what has worked in years gone by.

Gary Hasenfus mentioned that there were over 100 Christmas trees collected for fisheries in the lake. They will continue to drop the trees in, when the lake level comes back up. He also mentioned that there will be 20,000 red fin chad put into the lake and discussed the permitting that had to be done to get same. He further discussed the release.

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Hasenfus made a motion to adjourn the Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 5:01 p.m. Mr. Ken 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 March 7, 2022 at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mark Helms, Chairman

Marine Commission Concerns - Lake Advisory Board

Focus Areas

Citations and Fines Law Enforcement Enforcement Regulations Logs and referrals Possible Marine Auxiliary Community Policing Encouragement Regulations Required Training ★ Self Policing ▼ Regulations Adherence Program

Specific Safety Concerns

- Inexperienced and unknowledgeable visitors (VR and Livery Rentals)
- New watercraft technologies inappropriate for small lake (2006 Study Safety Review)
- Unauthorized and unsafe boating practices
- Excessive speed especially in no wake designated areas
- Kayaks and canoes operating and boats mooring in main navigation channels
- Large wakes interfering with other boats and damaging seawalls

Other Regulation Concerns

- Unauthorized and unregistered boats operating on lake
- Unsafe boat houses and docks that do not meet regulation standards
- Temporary removal of boats (especially abandoned craft) during sewer installation