

Lake Lure Lake Advisory Board Regular Meeting

October 3, 2022

Call to Order

Interim Chairman, Jim Lemmons called to order October 3, 2022 Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 3:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mr. Jim Lemmons, Interim Chairman

Mr. David Lusk

Ms. Sonya Ledford

Mr. Gary Hasenfus

Mrs. Kathie Hatfield

Mr. Richard Sayles

Absent:

No Absences

Town Council Members & Town Representatives present:

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

Also present, Kevin Rhea, Mark Helms and three unknown visitors

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda for the October 3, 2022 Board Meeting was reviewed. **Mrs. Hatfield made a motion to approve the Agenda**. **Mr. Sayles seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes for the September 7, 2022 Board Meeting were reviewed. Mrs. Hatfield made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mrs. Ledford seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

New Business

Kevin Rhea - Petition for Lake Use Regulations modification

Kevin Rhea spoke at length on reasons for the petition for modification. Kevin Rhea stated that he sent out 63 letters to other residents, asking for support of his complaints regarding boat traffic, boat noise, and erosion of seawalls as related specifically to the operations of Lake Lure Adventure Company. Out of those 63 requests, 16 residents responded with 14 in support of Kevin Rhea's complaints and suggested resolution, and 2 responded with lack of support. Kevin Rhea is asking that the Town limit Lake Lure Adventure Company to operate at 10mph or less and not within 300 feet of the shoreline in the area around his home.

The board explained that public policy and new regulations could not target individuals or specific businesses, and that they must be applied equally to all property owners. It was noted that a speed and buffer policy change must be applied to all channels, not just the dam channel since all channels experience a similar impact. An expanded buffer of 300 feet or a speed limit of 10 mph effectively reduces the area for the lake for water sports. The Board expressed that Mr. Rhea's suggested policy would further restrict the lake use model to fewer boat permits, which is based on total area. It was noted that this is problematic given the number of permits required to support the current resident population. The board intends to conduct an assessment in the summer of 2023 to evaluate the effectiveness of the recent regulation update that may mitigate the concerns that Mr. Rhea expressed. The board also spoke on procedures for populating and rotating members on Town Boards.

Report from Council Liaison

Commissioner DiOrio congratulated the Board on the great job of updating the Lake Use Regulations. The board's next step is to work on the online, educational boating license. Mr. DiOrio noted that the Marine Commission is willing to finance part of this project. Another priority for the board is getting ramp barriers in place. Mr. Givens is working with a company to get the project moving forward.

Mr. Sayles made a motion to approve the Lake Use Regulations as is. Ms. Hatfield seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

Report from Lake Operations

Mr. Givens asked if there were questions regarding this past month's reports with no responses. He shared that the online permitting project has changed directions because the original company proved unable to meet the Town's permitting needs. A different company has been secured that is more marina based. The project is quickly shaping up to be ready to use in a few weeks. The Green Space and PR&L Office has been busy with visitors. There have been 800 hits on the Green Space counters.

Fishery & Ecosystem

Mr. Hasenfus had nothing to report.

Emergency Preparedness & Response

Mr. Lusk reported that the Town was well prepared for Hurricane Ian. The lake was dropped because of NOAA preparedness plans. Mr. Lusk also reported the Lake Lure Classical Academy is working to be a designated emergency shelter for the community. The deep-water launch application will be handled by LaBella.

Dredging & Watershed Stabilization

Mr. Givens reported that the dredging project is going well. In January 2023, excavation dredging will begin for the Morse Park area. Rumbling Bald Resort has been permitted for dredging in 2023 as well.

Regulations & Law Enforcement

Ms. Ledford had nothing to report. Mr. Givens reports that the Police Chief will be assigning an officer to be on the Lake Advisory Boards for future meetings.

Additional Business

There was no additional business to discuss.

Adjournment

Mrs. Hatfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 5:16 p.m. Mr. Lusk seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

Minutes were transcribed by Corbie Bradley, Board Clerk

The next regular meeting of the Lake Advisory Board will be November 7, 2022 at 3:30 p.m. at the Parks, Recreation & kake Office.

Jim Lemmons, Interim Chairman

_Corbie Bradley, Board Clerk