



Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board
Regular Meeting
October 7, 2021

Call to Order

Chairman Mr. Jim Walters called to order the October 7, 2021 meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:36 p.m. via ZOOM format

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mr. Jim Walters, Chairman
Mr. Larry Czajkoski
Mr. Robin Worcester

Mr. Ed Dittmer, Vice Chairman
Mr. Bill Massey
Mrs. Maureen Bay

Board Members absent:

Mr. Mark Hoek, Alternate
Mr. Dan Bragdon

Town Council and Officials present:

Commissioner Patrick Bryant

Other Town Staff and Contributors Present:

Ms. Dana Bradley – Town of Lake Lure Parks, Recreation and Trails Coordinator
Ms. Samantha Brooks – AmeriCorps Trails Coordinator

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MEETING MINUTES

The Agenda for the October 7, 2021 meeting was reviewed. **Mr. Massey made a motion to approve the Agenda and Mrs. Bay seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

The Minutes of the September 2, 2021 meeting were reviewed. **Mr. Massey made a motion to approve the Minutes as amended and Mr. Worcester seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

Parks & Recreation Board Members Presentation and Discussion

Parks, Recreation & Lake Report – Ms. Dana Bradley

Ms. Bradley introduced Samantha Brooks with AmeriCorps and thanked her for her time and for her help on the trail work days. Ms. Bradley reviewed the monthly reports. Mrs. Bay inquired into the report where employees were charting how much time they took for each project and questioned if this

was not taking more time. Ms. Bradley explained that the daily report only takes about 2 minutes to fill out. She stated that there will be another employee hired in January and this report will help see where that employee is most needed. Ms. Bradley confirmed with Mrs. Bay that all boats need to be removed from Lake Lure by November 1st. Mrs. Bay will relay this to Lake Lure Village Resort. There was discussion regarding the new barge that will be delivered soon. Ms. Bradley explained the smaller boats that have been used over the years are time consuming, as they are much smaller. She explained the larger barge will be able to pick up more and haul it to shore. It will hold 4 – 5 times what the smaller barges/boats held. Mrs. Bay asked about the shortage of police that was mentioned in Ms. Bradley's report. Ms. Bradley explained that Mr. Givens has been assisting the police department during a shortage of staff. Ms. Bradley mentioned that there is a waiting list for the Marina boat slips. There are currently 34 Residents and 47 non-residents on the waiting list.

After Ms. Bradley's report – it was discussed that Mr. Hoek, who was unable to get on ZOOM, had voiced his opinion with using ZOOM and his displeasure. There were other members that also desired to meet instead of using ZOOM. There was a brief discussion of meeting outdoors and Commissioner Bryant mentioned other venues in the area that were being used as meeting places since they were outdoors. Chairman Walters will get with Commissioner Bryant to attempt an outdoor meeting for the November 4, 2021 meeting.

Golf Course – Mr. Mark Hoek, Alternate

There was no report of the golf course however it was mentioned that the Disc Golf Tournament will be held on October 16th and 17th.

Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail Park – Mr. Ed Dittmer

Mr. Dittmer has not been up to the trail today since the heavy rains came through however he feels most likely there will be some damage and the drainage may have to be worked on again. He expects the fall colors to come in soon. Ms. Bradley explained that she felt to get more accurate numbers on the trail counter that she may need to move it to a more central location, as there are 2 entrances to the trail now.

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

Mr. Czajkoski thanked Ms. Bradley for her work on the trail counters and he discussed that he was also sure that the storm yesterday and today would have done damage to the trails. There was a discussion on signage to suggest not using the trails during or after storms and possible closure of the trails until they can get out to look at the damage. Ms. Bradley mentioned there was a work day scheduled for next week. Mr. Worcester suggested he could go sooner and through a discussion he, along with Ms. Brooks and Ms. Bradley, will visit the trails on Sunday to assess damage and work on what they're able. Ms. Bradley mentioned that Ken Golliher will assess the damage on Weed Patch Mountain over the weekend and give a report.

Lake Lure Flowering Bridge – Mr. Bill Massey

Mr. Massey reviewed activities on the Flowering Bridge and mentioned the Bear exhibit that area artist have decorated/painted and they will be a part of a fund raiser. He also discussed that the last two weeks of October they'll have a pumpkin exhibit, which will then be followed by the tree lighting ceremony and he hopes they'll be able to do as they did before COVID where the school will have their choir out when the tree is lit for the season. He reviewed the trail counter numbers and mentioned that the over 143k number is great for this year thus far. Mr. Massey also mentioned the accolades they are

getting in magazines and on websites. Mrs. Bay discussed further the Loaded for Bear exhibit and mentioned how folks can bid or buy-it-now on BiddingOwl.org. This exhibit ends on October 24th.

Morse Park – Mr. Jim Walters

Chairman Walters asked Ms. Bay to discuss the use of small aluminum signs in Morse Park to identify plants species as they do on the Flowering Bridge. Mrs. Bay informed the Board that the small signs are informative and name the plant as well as information on the species. She mentioned the cost is roughly \$10 per sign. The Board was very interested in this. Mrs. Bay will get all the information needed for the Board. Ms. Bradley was excited about this feature and mentioned they were very low maintenance. Chairman Walters asked for it to be placed on the Agenda for November.

Ms. Bradley thanked the Board for all the time they've put in on the Amphitheatre design and new design for Morse Park. She asked if they thought they were ready to move forward and make a request to Council regarding the plan.

Mr. Massey made a recommendation for Ms. Bradley to move forward with the plan and design of Morse Park and the Amphitheatre by taking it to the Town Council for their review and approval. Mrs. Bay seconded the recommendation and all were in favor.

Mr. Dittmer mentioned the drainage issue he was seeing in the park today by the playground and parking area. Ms. Bradley said they were aware of this since the storms today and she had staff over there working on the drainage. There was discussion about having the fire department come out to help blow leaves from the culverts to help with run off. Mr. Dittmer mentioned feedback about the playground equipment that was published on an internet site. Ms. Bradley stated she had seen that and they immediately went to the equipment in question. She stated that the photo depicting metal edging was actually a rubber runner. She mentioned they cut that to fit better.

Parks & Recreation Programs and Initiatives

Mr. Bragdon was not present.

Input from Town Council Liaison – Commissioner Christopher Patrick Bryant

Commissioner Bryant reviewed the lake lowering plan as well as the State of Emergency that was declared today with the storm and flooding conditions. He thanked the staff for their monitoring everything during the storm. He reviewed the current dredging taking place in the lake around the gazebo area as well as discussed the AT&T Tower planned for Boys Camp Road area. He mentioned that we're looking at 12 to 24 months for completion. Commissioner Bryant briefly spoke of a meeting that the Mayor and Commissioner DeOrio had with STG Engineering regarding the lake draw down. He also discussed the Town Forum coming up on October 14th to introduce the candidates for Town Council.

Mrs. Bay inquired into the conversation they still needed to have regarding the Yoga Classes on the Flowering Bridge and the Concessioner Agreement that was needed. Commissioner Bryant will make sure it's included in the next Town Council meeting agenda. He mentioned that he had spoken with Town Manager and that he was on board with the Concessioner Agreement. He will update Mrs. Bay after the council meeting.

Mr. Dittmer inquired into the annexing of the Buffalo Creek Park 1500 acres. Commissioner Bryant explained that Planning and Development is currently reviewing that plan. Commissioner Bryant will get an update from him for the next meeting.

Other Comments:

Commissioner DiOrio (who joined later in the meeting) thanked the board for their plan on Morse Park and the work they'd done to make sure it was a good plan for the future of the park and Lake Lure.

Adjournment

Mr. Massey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m. Mr. Dittmer 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 November 4, 2021 at 1:30 pm. It is currently scheduled to be held on ZOOM, however this may change to an outdoor venue to be announced.

ATTEST:


Jim Walters, Chairman


Kat Canant, Board Clerk



Dean Givens; Parks, Recreation, and Lake Director

DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation, and Lake

REPORT DATE:

PREPARED FOR:

September 30, 2021

Town Manager

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Current Parks, Recreation, and Lake Projects:

1. Boy's Camp Rd. Campground – designing to include cellular pole	2. Luremont Trails – <i>Trail scouted; permits filed; Plan approved by Parks and Rec. Board, legal opinion received; working on next steps</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	8. Replacement of boardwalk/seawall at the gazebo	9. Seeking Grants for Buffalo Creek Park parking lot expansion – <i>Grant has been submitted</i>
10. Permit for Filling in Half of Pond in Morse Park – <i>According to the Morse Park master plan</i>	11. Deep Water Launch – <i>Applying for permits</i>	12. Finishing the paver walkway from the small beach house to the big beach house
13. Island Creek spoils site	14. Lake access for dredge equipment	15. Storm Damage Repair

PR&LD ACTIVITIES:

1. Oversee daily operations for Parks, Rec, & Lake
2. Attended multiple staff/public meetings
3. Attended multiple project meetings
4. Continued training new employee
5. Created and implemented a Daily Activity Report (DAR) for PR&L staff
6. Helped with storm damage clean-up efforts
7. Worked on multiple projects
 - Dredging
 - Island Creek Rd. silt disposal site
 - Deepwater Launch
 - Walkway pavers in front of beach
 - New seawall at gazebo
 - Mining permit
 - Boys Camp Rd. plans
 - Went to Florida to get new work boat
 - Designing and Preparing to take delivery of new work barge in October
 - Assisted Police department multiple days due to staff shortages
 - New permitting software

PR&TC ACTIVITIES:

1. Mailed and emailed lake drawdown information to marina slip renters
2. Started preparing to send out commercial boat licensing renewal letters
3. Continued training new PR&L employee
4. Began training the new AmeriCorps member, Samantha Brooks
5. Updated the Parks, Recreation, and Lake Department Standard Operating Procedures
6. Implemented a Daily Activity Report for staff/began entering daily data into a spreadsheet
7. Began research for a new permitting software company
8. Continued lake debris clean-up efforts
9. Recruited volunteer to help with lake debris clean-up - 1 volunteer; 8 hours
10. Ken Golliher, trail boss for the Weed Patch Mountain Trail, walked the trail and reported issues on 9/3 – 1 volunteer; 8 hours
11. Led Weed Patch Mountain Trail workday on 9/8 to remove fallen trees – 8 volunteers; 64 volunteer hours
12. Led Buffalo Creek Park workday on 9/16 to repair erosion – 6 volunteers; 30 volunteer hours
13. Branches were cleared from the Weed Patch Mountain Trail and other issues were reported by the trail boss on 9/24 – 1 volunteer; 7.5 hours
14. Ed Dittmer, trail boss for Dittmer-Watts Nature Trails, walked the trails and reported issues that needed to be repaired on 9/27. 1 volunteer; 2.5 volunteer hours
15. Coordinated a Dittmer-Watts workday on 9/29 to repair minor erosion – 3 volunteers; 9 volunteer hours
16. Planned upcoming trail maintenance days and recruited volunteers to help
17. Checked trail counters on 9/29 and trained Samantha on the process
18. Checked Buffalo Creek Park, Dittmer-Watts Nature Trails, and Weed Patch Mountain for damage
19. Utilized volunteer to collect water samples from streams – 1 volunteers; 8 volunteer hours
20. Collected water samples on lake and took samples to EQI for testing
21. Utilized a total of **137 volunteer hours**

22. Attended several meetings

P&R Maintenance Activities:

1. Helped with storm damage clean-up on the trails
2. Performed regular ground maintenance activities at all areas
3. Cleaned parks, boat ramp, and marina
4. Sprayed playground equipment and picnic tables with bleach
5. Took down Olympiad and library banners

Lake Activities:

1. Buoy maintenance
2. Debris pickup
3. Storm debris clean-up
4. Debris boom repairs and deployment

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. Boys Camp Road: Not selected for PARTF funding.
4. Dredging Grant: \$637,500 grant awarded, working to finalize budget
5. Naming Rights Policy: Continuing to gather information for Naming Rights Policy for Town properties
6. 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