



Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board
Regular Meeting
May 5, 2022

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Mr. Ed Dittmer called to order the May 5, 2022 meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mr. Ed Dittmer, Vice Chairman Mr. Robin Worcester Mr. Mark Hoek, Alternate
Mrs. Maureen Bay

Board Members absent:

Mr. Jim Walters, Chairman Mr. Dan Bragdon Mr. Bill Massey
Mr. Larry Czajkoski

Town Council and Officials present:

Commissioner David DiOrio

Other Town Staff and Contributors Present:

Ms. Dana Bradley – Town of Lake Lure Parks, Recreation and Trails Coordinator
Mr. Dean Givens – Parks, Recreation and Lake Director

Agenda and Meeting Minutes

The Agenda for the May 5, 2022 meeting was reviewed. **Mrs. Bay made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Hoek seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

The Minutes of the April 7, 2022 meeting were reviewed. **Mr. Worcester made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mrs. Bay 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 reviewed the Monthly Report with the members. She also announced that Samantha Brooks with AmeriCorps would be leaving May 14 and that the Town would hire help that would consist of 10 hours a week, which they currently had budgeted, and a new AmeriCorps representative would be available in September. Ms. Bradley reviewed volunteer hours and was very happy with the

volunteers that are giving of their time. She also mentioned that the phones are not yet working in the new office but should be soon. Mrs. Bay asked if the work that they've done on turning the old golf course building into an office, if that the Town brought the golf course back, if it could be repurposed. Ms. Bradley said it could always be repurposed. Mrs. Bay asked what was being done regarding Lake Lure Rowing concession agreement. Ms. Bradley stated nothing further has been done. Mr. Givens stated that they were waiting on Wade (owner) to bring back a revised plan.

Ms. Bradley announced that they've just hired Ms. Corbie Bradley for their new Administrative Support Specialist and she would begin in the next couple of weeks. Ms. Bradley mentioned that Ms. C. Bradley will begin taking minutes of the Park and Rec Board as well as the Lake Advisory Board. She mentioned they may begin having these meetings at their new office space.

Green Space – Mr. Mark Hoek, Alternate

Mr. Hoek mentioned that the golf course looks poorly maintained and neglected. He reviewed a meeting that Mrs. Laura Doster with the Chamber, had with a group of interested investors regarding the golf course. Mr. Hoek reviewed that meeting and read an offer that was made to purchase the golf course, from a Mr. Luke Davis with Lie & Loft Inc. The letter was an offer to purchase as well as a request for due diligence on the golf course.

Commissioner DiOrio stated that the golf course, now the Green Space, was never for sale and that the Mayor had returned correspondence with Mr. Davis stating such. There was further conversation regarding this exchange wherein Mr. Hoek stated the reason he had believed the golf course was up for sale, was a conversation he had with previous Town Manager Shannon Baldwin. There was discussion regarding that conversation. Commissioner DiOrio stated the golf course was never Shannon Baldwin's to sell, but that it was the Town's and the Town had never implied that it was up for sale. Commissioner DiOrio continued the conversation by explaining the purpose of not selling that land. He also mentioned that the Town will be saving around a million dollars during the sewer and dam work, by being able to store the equipment and parts on this land. He also mentioned that by not using the course as greens, that this stopped the runoff of chemicals into the creek and into the lake. Commissioner DiOrio reviewed the creek and that it needed to be revitalized. Ms. Bradley spoke and stated the Green Space was being used by many people, pets and kids. Commissioner DiOrio thanked Mr. Hoek for his efforts and didn't know about any conversation Mr. Hoek had with past Town Manager Baldwin. There was conversation about tourism dollars that would be lost not having the course. Commissioner DiOrio explained to the Board how the TDA Tourism monies were only received from Vacation Rentals "VRBO's". There was continued discussion regarding the future of the Green Space. Commissioner DiOrio took a moment to mention to the Board that Mr. Hank Perkins who accepted the Town Manager position, would begin June 1st.

Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail Park – Mr. Ed Dittmer

Mr. Dittmer walked the trails and noticed two trees down. Ms. Bradley got the locations and will make sure they're removed. Mr. Dittmer was very happy with the new benches and asked for a couple to be placed in other areas. There was a discussion regarding the trail counters and Mr. Dittmer was happy with the amount of people on the trails.

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

Ms. Bradley continued discussion regarding the counters and mentioned the trails were getting a lot of use. The parking lot is finished and there will now be 36 parking spots available for hikers. She will be

placing two picnic tables in the same area. There was a discussion regarding the new bolder trail and mentioned that construction would start soon.

Ms. Bradley spoke of the AmeriCorps worker, Samantha Brooks that would be leaving. Ms. Bradley spoke about what an asset she had been. Commissioner DiOrio, will mention her great work at the coming up Town Council meeting.

Lake Lure Flowering Bridge – Mrs. Bay

Mrs. Bay stated that that the counter numbers on the bridge were good. They are having their Brick Fund Raiser and she mentioned the other fund raiser of that will happen in the fall. There will be a herb class at the end of May. Mrs. Bay also mentioned that all the flowers really look good. Mrs. Bay discussed possible new parking area they were looking at. Commissioner DiOrio discussed that the Town is, as a part of the downtown plan, will be developing new areas and features. They're waiting on the cell phone tower, which he discussed has been slightly delayed due to the State. After that is completed Commissioner DiOrio discussed the entire plans for the Flowering Bring, the Marina, new Campground, all linking together by a bridge from the campground back to the Town Hall area. There was continued discussion regarding these plans. As these plans develop, Commissioner DiOrio will be sure to keep the Board informed.

Morse Park – Mr. Jim Walters

Chairman Walters was not present. There was mention regarding some repairs that needed to be done on the Gazebo. Ms. Bradley mentioned she was aware of the same and will get with Public Works Dean Lindsey.

Programs and Initiatives – Mr. Dan Bragdon

Mr. Bragdon was not present.

Input from Town Council Liaison – Commissioner David DiOrio

Commissioner DiOrio was asked by Mrs. Bay about why the Beach was not opened all the time. Commissioner DiOrio as well as Mr. Givens discussed the concession agreement with Lake Lure Tours. Commissioner DiOrio mentioned that if the Board ever wanted to bring an issue to the Town Council, they would need to make a recommendation and have their Chairman bring it to the Town Council. There was discussion regarding this process.

Commissioner DiOrio brought the Board up to date on the draw down that would be discussed at the next Town Council meeting. He was happy to report that Grants had been awarded to the Town that will allow them to move forward with the Dam and Dredging. There was discussion regarding the dredging buoys and they would be moved to the sides of the river allowing access up the river. There was further discussion regarding the dredging and that the contractor would continue to be Tim Edwards. Commissioner DiOrio reviewed the dredging process and how the spoils were sent to the pits and from there go through a process to be reused. There was continued discussion.

Other Comments:

Mrs. Krejci brought the Board up to date will all the upcoming events.

Mrs. Bay inquired about the Pool Creek Bridge Lights, wherein Commissioner DiOrio gave an update at to where the Town was with the process as well as the ideas for either rebuilding the concrete poles or

replacing them. He did mention that all the other two fixtures were found and will be used to put atop the pole.

There was mention that the Public Works office will be moved over to the Green Space and that the area behind the Arcade Building will be refurbished for commercial use. There was discussion regarding shops and similar purpose for this area. Commissioner DiOrio mentioned that it would either be developed or sold

Vice Chairman Ed Dittmer brought the board up to date on the Geese Mitigation. This year they only found 27 eggs to oil. He felt that the fact that this number diminishes every year, that the Geese Mitigation Program was working. Only one gosling has been reported this year.

Adjournment

Mr. Hoke made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:08 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 June 2, 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