



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

Call to Order

Chairman Mr. Jim Walters called to order the March 3, 2022 meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:38 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mr. Jim Walters, Chairman
Mrs. Maureen Bay

Mr. Ed Dittmer, Vice Chairman
Mr. Bill Massey

Mr. Robin Worcester

Board Members absent:

Mr. Mark Hoek, Alternate

Mr. Dan Bragdon

Mr. Larry Czajkoski

Town Council and Officials present:

Commissioner Patrick Bryant

Other Town Staff and Contributors Present:

Mr. Dean Givens – Parks, Recreation and Lake Director

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

Agenda and Meeting Minutes

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

The Minutes of the February 3, 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.**

New Business

Mrs. Kathy Tanner spoke to the Board regarding the parking area in front of the Marina building. She felt it did not need to be used by the Marina staff and requested that the staff use a parking area further away to park. Mrs. Tanner felt that this area should be used for a drop off area as well as it would leave the area available for emergency vehicles whether it be Police, Fire or EMS. The Board and Commissioner Bryant spoke of their agreements.

Mr. Massey made a Motion to recommend to Council to post a "nice" sign in front of the Marina area stating "This area is for drop off and Emergency Vehicles only. No Parking Permitted" 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 advised the Board that they have 5 employees total now for Park, Recreation and Lake. She mentioned the new deep water launch area that is being finished up. The Lake should be going up to full pond around March 21st. She discussed the process of assigning boat slips and that town residents take precedence. Ms. Bradley reviewed the process of the Luremont Trail and it should be going before the Legislation and General Assembly soon. She has volunteers that are ready to begin building. She also mentioned they will need to construct a bridge over Pool Creek.

Mr. Dittmer mentioned that the beach walkway pavers looked very nice and it was mentioned that the fence area needed replacing and Ms. Bradley agreed and stated that was in the process. Mr. Givens quickly reviewed the work completed at the Gazebo. The Board was very pleased. Mrs. Bay inquired into the lights on Pool Creek Bridge. Ms. Canant informed the Board that she and Mr. Dean Lindsey are working on this with Duke Energy. The poles and lights will be removed by Duke Energy and new lighting will go up. This is in the works. There was further discussion regarding running electrical wires around the lake underground. Mr. Givens mentioned this has already been looked at and the cost is very expensive. There was further discussion.

Mr. Dittmer mentioned he was working on the final of the Open Space Plan and would get it to Dana soon. It was mentioned Mrs. Bay had completed her final.

Green Space – Mr. Bill Massey

Mr. Massey reviewed Mr. Hoak's letter regarding discussions the Green Space Committee had and suggestions they were making for plans for the Green Space. Mr. Givens quickly wanted to speak to the rumors that were being spread regarding a parking lot being built. The gravel that was put down, was to allow the equipment to drive up the terrain. Additionally, Mrs. Bay asked if it true that people going up to play golf were being arrested by the police. Mr. Givens said this rumor was grossly untrue.

The suggestions from Mr. Hoak's list were discussed and it was mentioned that money was needed to hire a planner to properly create an overhead view of the Green Space and where their suggestions could be added. After a lengthy discussion Mr. Givens asked the group to remain cognizant of the formal steering committee that was working with the TDA. He asked the Board to wait on direction from them. Commissioner Bryant took time and reviewed the steering committee that was formed and now name the Lake Lure Steering Committee. Commissioner Bryant reviewed what partners were on that committee and what they brought to the committee.

Chairman Walters took time to explain the chartered group, now named the Lake Lure Steering Committee and what they would be doing regarding not only the Green Space but additionally continue the work in Morse Park, which has already been approved. The TDA through the Rutherford Bound program will be able to offer assistance with funding. Chairman Walters mentioned there were many thing that needed to continue moving ahead with Morse Park to create it as a focal point for Lake Lure.

There were plans for the multi-use two story Marina which would host a gift shop, a small eatery and new boat slips that would be created in the water area in front of the new Marina. He also mentioned the gas pump would be moved to the newer boat ramp area. The Board continued the discussion for funding and the many areas that it would be used in.

After this discussion Chairman Walters mentioned to Mr. Massey, that because the new Lake Lure Steering Committee had formed with an overall direction for the Town, that the committee that had been previously formed to create suggestions for use of the Green Space, was no longer needed and they could stop their research. He thanked them for all they had done.

Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail Park – Mr. Ed Dittmer

Mr. Dittmer was happy with the trail counter numbers and knows there will be a rise now that people are getting back outdoors. Ms. Bradley discussed replacing the old wooden benches wherein Mr. Massey stated that he knew where metal benches were being sold for \$65. Dana was interested and stated she would get with Mr. Bragdon who had the contact information. It was also mentioned that signs needed to go up where the trails and the Green Space meet to let folks know they could hike/walk that area now.

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

Ms. Bradley reviewed the Buffalo Creek Public parking area and that due to the lay of the land a few things had to be changed but that it was still a go. Weed Patch looked great and there will be a work day where emergency access points will be created as well as several areas of the trail repaired. She discussed the newly planned BCP Trail which will be developed by Mike Reardon, that will be a great trail that features several bouldering venues. Ms. Bradley was excited with the plans. Ms. Bradley also spoke of a new pollinator garden area that LLCA would be caring for, just off the trails at Dittmer-Watts. Ms. Bradley will oversee this as it's planned.

Lake Lure Flowering Bridge – Mrs. Mo Bay

Mrs. Bay discussed the financials and mentioned the group had brought in over \$20K in 2021 with projects and sales. They will be selling the Bricks again as well will have another Bear event where the Lake Lure Artist paint wooden bears that are auctioned off. She mentioned March to April the tulips that have been recently planted should be blooming just in time for their Tip Toe through the Tulips. They are also in the process of planning new gardens.

Morse Park – Mr. Jim Walters

Chairman Walters had nothing further to add to the Morse Park discussion earlier in the meeting.

Programs and Initiatives

Mrs. Bay reviewed the upcoming function for this next weekend (3/4/2022) where the Carolina Climbers Coalition will have their bouldering contest up in the park off Boys Camp Road. They will be camping in Morse Park during this time.

Mrs. Bay also reviewed her event Boys Camp Road Trash Pick Up, which would be happening on April 12th at 9am.

Input from Town Council Liaison – Commissioner Christopher Patrick Bryant

Commissioner Bryant reviewed with the Board the overall plans for all advisory boards to have some rotations of members as well as any appointments that were due to be completed the end of 2021, will

process through sometime in March. Commissioner Bryant also discussed that he would be taking the recommendation from today's meeting to the Council next week regarding the Marina parking area.

Other Comments:

No other Comments

Adjournment

Mr. Dittmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 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 April, 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:

March 1, 2022

Town Manager

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Current Parks, Recreation, and Lake Projects:

1. Boy's Camp Rd. Campground – <i>New master plan has been adopted – will continue with campground planning after cell tower is complete</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. Lake access for dredge equipment – <i>Seeking easement with property owners</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>Pavers to be completed this week; landscaping to begin soon</i>	9. Buffalo Creek Park parking lot expansion – <i>Funding obtained; working on plans to begin installation</i>
10. New office remodel – <i>In progress</i>	11. Deep Water Launch – <i>Permit received – working with contractor to schedule</i>	12. Finishing the paver walkway from the small beach house to the big beach house – <i>Complete – working on landscaping</i>
13. New permitting software – <i>Training in progress</i>	14.	15.

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 – received the last permit, working with contractor to schedule
 - Walkway pavers in front of beach – Complete. Now working on landscaping and final touches.
 - New seawall at gazebo – Pavers will be complete this week and then we will landscape and final touches.
 - Mining permit – Waiting on permitting
 - Working on new office remodel
 - Working on hiring a new employee for maintenance

PR&TC ACTIVITIES:

1. Interviewed applicants for maintenance technician position
2. Worked on new office remodel
3. Secured additional funding for the Buffalo Creek Park parking lot
4. Continued entering marina boat slip renewals into the spreadsheet
5. Moved slip renters requesting different slips
6. Continued training with LLPD
7. Continued updating the Parks, Recreation, and Lake Department Standard Operating Procedures
8. Trained on new permitting software - RecDesk
9. Organized a Weed Patch Mountain workday on 2/9 to remove dangerous trees – 4 volunteers; 26 volunteer hours
10. Organized Buffalo Creek Park workday on 2/24 to repair eroded areas – 5 volunteers, 20 volunteer hours
11. Organized a Dittmer Watts workday on 2/25 to remove dead trees – 3 volunteers; 9 volunteer hours
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; 7 volunteer hours
15. Utilized a total of **62 volunteer hours**
16. Attended several meetings

P&R Maintenance Activities:

1. Worked on new office remodel
2. Assisted with Weed Patch Mountain Trail workday
3. Performed regular ground maintenance activities at all areas
4. Cleaned parks, boat ramp, and marina
5. Sprayed playground equipment and picnic tables with bleach

Lake Activities:

1. Lake work and dredging will resume when the lake returns to full pond

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: 22
 - ii. Non-resident Waiting List: 56