



Lake Lure Parks & Recreation Board
Regular Meeting
July 7, 2022

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Mr. Ed Dittmer called to order the July 7, 2022 meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board at 1:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Mr. Ed Dittmer, Vice Chairman	Ms. Maureen Bay
Mr. Robin Worcester	Mr. Larry Czajkoski

Board Members absent:

Mr. Mark Hoek, Alternate	Mr. Daniel Bragdon
Mr. Bill Massey	Mr. Jim Walters

Town Council and Officials present:

Commissioner Patrick Bryant
Town Manager Hank Perkins

Other Town Staff and Contributors Present:

Mrs. Corbie Bradley – Town of Lake Lure Parks, Recreation and Lake Administrative Support Specialist
Ms. Dana Bradley – Town of Lake Lure Parks, Recreation and Trails Coordinator via phone call
Laura Krejci – Town of Lake Lure Communications Director

Agenda and Meeting Minutes

The Agenda for the July 7, 2022 meeting was reviewed. **Mr. Czajkoski made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Worcester seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

The Minutes of the June 2, 2022 meeting were reviewed. **Mr. Worcester made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Czajkoski seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

Parks & Recreation Board Members Presentation and Discussion

Parks, Recreation & Lake Report – Dana Bradley via phone

Ms. Dana Bradley reported that it had been a great month with lots of visitors and interest in the trails. The previous AmeriCorps member didn't work out but the member scheduled to start in September is able to begin her duty next week. Her name is Brenna Johnson. The lapse in the volunteer availability has left us without trail counts for this month. Up to date trail counts will be provided in full the next meeting. Trail work days are set as follows:

- 7/7/2022 Dittmer Watts
- 7/19/2022 Buffalo Creek
- 7/13 & 7/27/2022 Conserving Carolinas will be joining us for these two dates on Weedpatch.

Ms. Maureen Bay asked for an update on Pool Creek bridge lighting. The fact that this is a Public Works/Services Department issue was discussed. Ms. Laura Krejci offered to follow through with Dean Lindsey on the matter and report back to the findings to the board.

Green Space – Dana Bradley via phone

The matter of the curb appeal and any plans for a ribbon cutting for the Green Space was addressed by Ms. Maureen Bay. She shared and several board members agreed, that many in the community are not pleased with the current state of the Green Space. Ms. Dana Bradley stated that the Parks, Recreation, and Lake Team is following through on the suggestions from Town Council as to what areas are kept mowed. As discussed in the previous meeting, Councilman Bryant reminded that it takes time for nature to take back over such a previously controlled plot of land. The Green Space is in a transition state and is a work in progress. Ms. Dana Bradley mentioned the plans for trees to be strategically planted throughout the Green Space and wild flowers will be sewn in the near future. Ms. Dana Bradley reminded that suggestions could be made to Town Council as to any areas that the community would like attention to be given.

Mr. Larry Czajkoski asked for suggestions as how to best respond to the negative questions. The board discussed that no time frame is available but plans are in the works for recreational use, stream remediation with stream crossings.

Mr. Larry Czajkoski shared with the Board two suggestions from a citizen.

- Goats might be an effective way to handle the growth in the Green Space.
- Have a competition with the local youth as to who could pick the most "stalagmite" type of weeds. A reward could be offered.

The future stream remediation project was elaborated on by Mr. Hank Perkins. This project will make a difference in the look of the Green Space. Town Council/Officials are awaiting more details and supporting documentation before signing off on and moving forward with this project.

Mr. Ed Dittmer spoke briefly on the various recreational uses that the Green Space currently offers and expectations for the future recreational uses.

Ms. Dana Bradley offered that plans for several ribbon cutting ceremonies would be announced soon. Mr. Hank Perkins confirmed the ribbon cutting for the Pavilion and Gazebo is planned for 7/28 @ 11am.

Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail Park – Mr. Ed Dittmer

Mr. Ed Dittmer has noticed some erosion from the recent storms within Dittmer-Watts but no trip hazards. In general the park is looking good. He went on to thank the Parks, Recreation, and Lake Team for the great-looking benches in the park. The bench at the trail head of Dittmer Watts is in bad shape and is still in need of attention.

Buffalo Creek Park, Weedpatch Mountain Trail – Mr. Larry Czajkoski

Mr. Czajkoski reported the Buffalo Creek Park looks great even after all of the recent rains. He is looking forward to the workdays. Ms. Dana Bradley states she will be getting out to check on this trail in the near future. She has had positive feedback from visitors regarding the picnic area and the ADA accessibility. Recent trail counts for this park should be available for the next meeting. Mr. Robin Worcester has received reports from water sampling volunteers about a downed tree and that the switchbacks need some attention. Ms. Dana Bradley will address these issues.

Lake Lure Flowering Bridge – Ms. Maureen Bay

The Flowering Bridge currently has Fairy Gardens on display until 9/7/2022.

The Rainbow Bridge was featured in a documentary by World Watcher.

50 bricks have been sold with funds from the sale going towards the educational programs.

WBTV did a program on Lake Lure Flowering Bridge.

The Flowering Bridge has its website up and running. A TDA grant helped make way for The Flowering Bridge to have a web address created. The web address is <https://lakelurefloweringbridge.org/>.

The Flowering Bridge has upcoming classes including Designing Fairy Gardens and Botanical Sunprinting.

The Education Center is progressing. Mr. Ed Dittmer asked what was the vision for the Education Center.

Ms. Maureen Bay stated that a separate post and beam building was intended to be built at the more western end of the property. The Flower Bridge committee is seeking to purchase or be approved for official use of the Chimney Rock property at the corner of Memorial Hwy and Boy Camp Rd. for parking needs.

The Lake Lure Flowering Bridge is continuing with their fundraisers and seeking grants.

The new website is proving popular with 18,000 views, 8,000+ searches, 1,100+ visits and 1,400 asking for directions.

Morse Park – Ms. Dana Bradley

Ms. Dana Bradley is working hard and brainstorming solutions for much needed parking in Morse Park.

Ms. Laura Krejci suggested cars not parking in the boat/trailer parking area would help with the boater parking issue.

Mr. Ed Dittmer asked if there was any word on the paving of the walkways that the TDA seems to have approved.

Ms. Bradley stated that she had submitted the Morse Park Trail paving project to the Trails Committee she serves on and that the project looks to be funded in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Commissioner Patrick Bryant informed the Board that the Dirty Dancing Festival will be held in front of the Arcade Building/Keeter Field this year as opposed to Morse Park. Tickets have been limited to 2500. The Chamber has been able to resolve the festival's name issue.

Programs and Initiatives – Mr. Dan Bragdon (absent)

Input from Town Council Liaison – Commissioner Patrick Bryant

Lake Lure Beach website had 258,000 hits.

Ms. Maureen Bay stated that the Car & Boat show had a poor turn out and questioned why. Commissioner Patrick Bryant offered that with 24 boats signing up before the event went open for public sign up that was not the case. As for the car show side, there were other car shows going on in the surrounding areas that could have had a negative effect of that portion of the event. This same event has been scheduled for the next two years. The dates are 5/20/2023 and 5/18/2024.

Arts and Craft Show is considering different dates for their future shows. Specifically they are looking at two weekends prior to Memorial Day.

Other Comments and General Group Discussions:

Discussion came up as to TDA Steering Committee meeting coming up July 28, 2022. Mr. Ed Dittmer and Commissioner Patrick Bryant stated that there is \$200,000 matched-guaranteed budgeted for the current physical year by council. Mr. Jim Walters will have a report for the board on this matter at the next meeting.

Mr. Hank Perkins spoke up regarding TDA monies being rolled over from one year to the next. This can be done for one year only. This allows for the two years allocations to be combined for larger projects.

Mr. Ed Dittmer stated that the TDA Steering Committee slated for 7/28 was to determine where the monies would go. He suggested that the next Parks and Recreation Board meeting be used to get projects in to the Rutherford Bound Plan. A project needs to be in the Rutherford Bound Plan and have ribbon cutting status per Ms. Dana Bradley. Mr. Ed Dittmer asked what currently is in the Rutherford Bound Plan that involves Lake Lure. Ms. Dana Bradley stated the Marina Phase 2 and the amphitheater were the two projects currently within the Rutherford Bound plan. Mr. Ed Dittmer suggests that we get the recreational plans for the Green Space into the plan. Ms. Dana Bradley gave guidance as to what would need to be done to get that going. This will be addressed at the next meeting. Also mentioned by Mr. Hank Perkins, the town has been designated as a "distressed unit". This status allows Lake Lure to strategize and puts us in a good position to gain grant monies. Considering the age of our infrastructures this is certainly an accurate assessment.

UAB has dissolved. Mr. Hank Perkins and Town Council have approved a town position to cover the absence of the UAB.

Mr. Ed Dittmer offered that the main channel of the lake was full of boats and the fireworks show was great this year and as was public response. Rumbling Bald had to reschedule due to inclement weather. The show will happen Labor Day, 2022.

Adjournment

Mr. Czajkoski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 p.m. Mr. Worcester seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

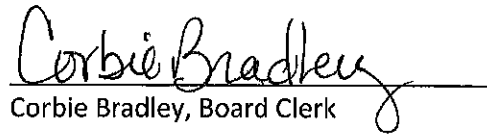
Minutes were transcribed by Corbie Bradley

The next regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board meeting will be July August 4, 2022 at 1:30 pm. It is currently scheduled to be held at the Parks, Recreation, and Lake Office.

ATTEST:



Ed Dittmer, Vice Chairman



Corbie Bradley, Board Clerk