



**Lake Lure Lake Advisory Board**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Lake Lure Town Hall**  
**July 12, 2021**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Mark Helms called to order the July 12, 2021 Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 3:30 p.m.

**Roll Call**

***Board Members present:***

Mr. Mark Helms, Chairman  
Mr. David Lusk  
Mr. Bill Bay

Mr. Michael Yelton, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Ken Golliher  
Mr. Gary Hasenfus

***Absent:***

Ms. Sonya Ledford

***Town Council Members & Town Representatives present:***

Council Liaison - Commissioner John Kilby  
Parks, Recreation & Lake Director Dean Givens  
Parks, Recreation and Trails Coordinator Dana Bradley

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Agenda for the July 12, 2021 Board Meeting was reviewed. **Mr. Hasenfus made a motion to approve the Agenda, Mr. Lusk seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes for the June 7, 2021 Board Meeting were reviewed. **Mr. Golliher made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Lusk seconded the motion and all members were in favor.**

## New Business

**A. Discuss request for over length rowing shell – Wade Opplinger** Mr. Opplinger asked the Board to recommend to the Marine Commission the four boat shells that are over length. Mr. Opplinger, with Lake Lure Rowing Racing and Retreats, mentioned his rowing shells go out on the water early in the morning and are out of the water by 7 to 8 am. He mentioned the college rowers that the town host each year are very similar in length. The Board discussed Mr. Opplinger's request.

**Mr. Gollither made a motion to recommend to the Marine Commission to approve the rowing shells of Mr. Opplinger's which are a total of 4 shells, to be permitted on the water of Lake Lure. Mr. Bay seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

**B. Review three Buoy requests – Mr. Dean Givens** Mr. Givens reviewed a total of four request (one was added recently) to add a buoy to by their home(s) and distributed maps of the requested locations. Mr. Givens mentioned the criteria that the Board has held true to, and mentioned that none of these request meet that criteria. The Board discussed the purpose of the buoys. The Board discussed the locations and agreed the criteria must be adhered to.

**Mr. Lusk made a motion to agree with Mr. Givens recommendation to not approve any of the four requests for the new placement of buoys on the lake. Mr. Hasenfus seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

**C. Lake Rules, Etiquette, Horse Power, Congestion and Safety Discussion – Chairman Mark Helms** Chairman Helms led the discussion on issues on the lake such as safety and how to keep boating safe. He mentioned the Board has attempted to address the safety of the lake numerous times. Commissioner Kilby mentioned he would hate for something bad to happen and that safety needed to be a main concern. The Board continued to discuss topics such as speed and that it would be hard to be governed as there was no way for patrol officers to determine the speed of a boat. There was a discussion on putting a limit to the horsepower on a boat and what types of boats that would fall into this limit. The Board agreed that it would be easier to watch for careless boaters. A discussion regarding implementing a class each year that boaters would have to take regarding Lake Lure Lake Rules and Regulations. The Board was in favor of this being looked into further and felt it was a very good idea. Mr. Givens stated he will continue to get information together on this and felt that each driver would have to have a Lake Lure Lake Driver card to be permitted to drive. This would mean vacation renters. It was mentioned the class could be an online class and the student could print the permit upon passing the course.

The Board further discussed horsepower's of boats and each board member discussed their thoughts for what they felt the maximum should be. Commissioner Kilby suggested a study should be done and it would help to look into Lake Bowen as a model. The Board discussed horsepower limits and that there would be a few boats that would have to grandfathered in and that if that grandfathered vessel ever moved from the lake, or were to be sold and then sought to come back onto the lake, it would not be permitted. The Board agreed with this thought. There was continued discussion regarding the limit of horse power.

**Mr. Bill Bay made a motion to limit the horse power on engines to 250 horsepower and allowing a grandfather clause of boats that have been permitted and approved on Lake Lure. Mr. Gollither seconded the motion.**

A discussion followed the motion wherein Mr. Hasenfus mentioned that he wanted it recorded that he felt 200HP should be the limit. With the further discussion it was decided that Mr. Gollither would be available to conduct a study on horsepower pertaining to in boards and out boards and pontoon boats and the Board felt this would be a good idea before voting.

**Mr. Bill Bay withdrew his motion as did Mr. Gollither on his second.**

Mr. Gollither will have his research done by the next meeting of the Lake Advisory Board.

#### **Report from Lake Operations – Mr. Dean Givens**

Mr. Givens reviewed the report Ms. Bradley had sent the Board. Mr. Givens mentioned that the lake will begin its draw down on November 1<sup>st</sup> and will continue until it is 12 ft down. In March they will start the refill. Mr. Hasenfus inquired as to the spawning season and Mr. Givens mentioned they will have to keep to the schedule. He stated that there are many things that have to fall into place before bringing the lake backup to full pond. A member of the audience suggested getting word out on the media to make sure everyone knew. The Board discussed how important it was to make sure residents shorelines and shore walls are taken care of as the raising and lowering in the next 10 years would most likely affect weak walls and since the lake would be down for an extended amount of time this winter, it would be an opportune time to make sure it's shored up.

Mr. Givens mentioned that his crew is looking to hire a replacement for Ms. Melody Potter who left employment. His team is looking to replace the boardwalk area in front of the Gazebo as well as the boardwalk in front of the beach with pavers.

#### **Report from Council Liaison – Commissioner John Kilby**

Mr. Kilby reviewed an article mentioning the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Dam Act, which would be spending 26 million dollars on repair and rebuild of dams in the United States to enhance safety and production. Of the states mentioned and the dams mentioned in North Carolina, Lake Lure was #2 on the list in the Country for the worst dam. Mr. Kilby also mentioned that the Marine Commission will hold off on the 200' distance from the shoreline discussion until the LAB has completed their current discussion on horsepower limits.

#### **Fishery & Ecosystem – Mr. Gary Hasenfus**

Mr. Hasenfus hopes to be able to get into the lake bed as the lake is down to continue to add to the structures for fisheries.

#### **Emergency Preparedness & Response – Mr. David Lusk**

Mr. Lusk had nothing new to add.

#### **Dredging & Watershed Stabilization – Mr. Michael Yelton**

Mr. Yelton confirmed that there is no dredging currently in progress.

**Regulations & Law Enforcement – Ms. Sonya Ledford**

Ms. Ledford was not present.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Michael DeCaetani, an audience member spoke in agreement for the boater education that had been discussed and thought the Lake Lure Lake License was a good idea. He also discussed that a monthly Lake Safety newsletter should go out to all registered boaters that could touch on new safety issues as well as things going on with the lake. Mr. DeCaetani also felt that Sunset Cove, since it is well known and heavily visited needed some extra patrolling. He realized not boat speeder could be caught so he felt that putting up a high resolution camera that would capture the speed or any infraction of the boat in the cove, as well as permit number, would be a great deterrent.

Mrs. Bay who was in the audience mentioned that she was delighted to hear the Board discussing horsepower limits.

Mr. Yelton made a motion to adjourn the Meeting of the Lake Advisory Board at 5:08 p.m. Mr. Hasenfus seconded the motion and all members were in favor.

Minutes were transcribed by Kat Canant, Board Clerk

The next regular meeting of the Lake Advisory Board will be August 2, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Kat Canant for Mark Helms Mark Helms, Chairman

Kat Canant Kat Canant, Board Clerk