

APPROVED

MINUTES OF CARTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**MEETING HELD April 7th, 2016 801 East Elk Ave, Elizabethton, TN 37643****OPENING:** Chairman Ken Gough called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM**ROLL CALL:** Erik Anderson conducted a roll-call. A quorum was present.

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Absent	William Birchfield (1)	Absent
Erik Anderson (2)	Present	Mel McKay (3)	Present	Jeff Smythe (4)	Present
Ken Gough (5)	Present	J.R Campbell (6)	Present	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Absent
Vacant (8)	Vacant	Bonnie Peters (Eliz Park and Rep)	Absent		

Guests were introduced: Roy Knispell (Herndon TOS)**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Minutes of the March 3rd meeting were provided to members before the meeting. Jeff Smythe made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes and approve. Mel McKay seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.**PRESENTATIONS: NONE****OLD BUSINESS:**

- Budget Submission:** Our budget was submitted and Ken will attend the Budget Committee hearings next month.
- Community Tours:** J.R reported that he has contacted the owner of a location in Elk Mills that we looked at during last month's tour. He is also looking for a community partner. At this time his focus is on the Volunteer Fire Department. The next Community Tour will be on Saturday April 30th at 09:00 AM. The tour will start from the Courthouse and retrace the path to Elk Mills and then take the back road to Buck Mountain and Roan Mountain.
- Elizabethton Parks and Rec Report:** Ken reviewed Charlie Mattioli's report that was provided in advance. Of specific interest is the City of Elizabethton's fast tracking of the Sugar Hollow mountain bike park and the placement of the multi-sport complex high on the priority list for the 5 year capital improvement plan,
- Birding:** Roy provided a written report. (1) The birding checklist has been completed and may be downloaded at our web-site. (2) A shorter birding guide for common birds with artist representations is in the design phase. This will be tailored toward younger and inexperienced birders. (3) A revision/update to the 1984 BIRDS of ROAN MOUNTAIN and VICINITY, is in the planning stage. The Herndon TOS is soliciting the Friend of Roan Mountain for a contribution to help with this project.
- Mountain Biking:** Jeff reported that SORBA is very impressed with the potential Sugar Hollow project. SORBA and City Of Elizabethton have the lead. The goal is to develop up to 10 miles of trail. The next step is to develop a plan which may cost \$3K to \$10K. Several issues that will have to be addressed are public access routes to the area and the operations of the firing range.
- Roan Mtn Community Park:** Erik provided a written report in advance. Mowing season is going well. Plans for the 2016 Farmers Market are complete and were provided. The

Board was asked to provide any question or concerns. None were noted. There will be an experimental community garden this year consisting of none 20ft by 20ft plots. Erik suggested that the Aug 4th meeting of the Parks and Rec Board take place at the Roan Mountain Community Park. The suggestion was accepted by common consensus. Erik also provided a summary of mowing equipment and quotes for a new lawnmower. **Erik made a motion that up to \$3000 of the money set aside in this year's budget for equipment replacement be disbursed at this time to procure a new mower. J.R seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted:**

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Absent	William Birchfield (1)	Absent
Erik Anderson (2)	Yes	Mel McKay (3)	Yes	Jeff Smythe (4)	Yes
Ken Gough (5)	Yes	J.R Campbell (6)	Yes	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Absent
Vacant (8)	Vacant	Bonnie Peters (Eliz Park and Rep)	Absent		

The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Carter County's Tweetsie Extension:** Signs are being made and the invoice came in under budget. The National Park Service is providing OVT trails signs for the appropriate part of the extension. Both set of signs will be installed within the next few weeks.
8. **Welcome Signs:** Erik presented a concept that he and JR had discussed. Mel had some suggestions. Mel, Erik and JR will further evaluate the concept and bring forth a proposal for next month's meeting.
9. **Overmountain Victory Trail:** Mel reported that they are waiting on a quote from "Design by Source" for the East Tennessee Master Plan. He will be attending an OVTA meeting this Saturday. He will also pursue getting a copy of a common letter of support for each of the agencies in east Tennessee to use in showing support for the project.
10. **Website:** Website is complete and training has been accomplished. Ken and Mel are working on a draft "List of Everything" recreational in the County which could eventually be placed on the website.
11. **Road Cycling:** The Road Cycling sub-committee is waiting to hear about the response for a grant request to mark numerous routes they have identified.
12. **Adventure Tourism:** Ken will continue to monitor. A modification was made to the TCA

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **District 8 Representation:** Mayor Humphrey is working with the District 8 commissioners to identify a replacement.
2. **Elizabethton Parks and Recreation Funding:** Erik made a motion that in light of the recent survey results which showed over 60% of City of Elizabethton Parks and Recreation facilities utilization is by county residents that the Carter County Parks and Recreation board recommend and request the Budget Committee to increase the County Contribution to the City of Elizabethton to \$35,000 next FY. Jeff seconded. The recommendation passed by a vote of three yes and 2 no.
3. **Pocket Park Strategy:** A draft Pocket Park strategy was provided to Board Members before the meeting. Ken added that the strategy would be an internal document to guide our development

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activities. **Jeff made a motion that we accept the revised Pocket Park strategy. Mel seconded the motion passed unanimously.**

4. **Grant Strategy:** A strategy for addressing grants in the coming year was also provided to board members before the meeting. **Mel made a motion that we adopt the strategy for applying for grants this year. JR seconded the motion passed unanimously.**
5. **NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be June 2nd, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the County Courthouse. **PLEASE NOTE THE NEW START TIME.**

ADJOURNMENT:

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 08:58 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Anderson
Secretary