

FINAL APPROVED

APPROVED

**MINUTES OF CARTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

MEETING HELD February 2nd, 2017 at Carter County Courthouse, 801 East Elk Ave, Elizabethton, TN 37643

Chairman Ken Gough called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

ROLL CALL: Jeff Smythe conducted a roll-call. A quorum was present.

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

Guests: Metin Eryasa, Jeff Sperry, Cynthia Clarke, David Ramsey, Jim Chambers, Ross Garland, Cody McQueen, Chris Little, Roy Knispel.

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Minutes of the November 3rd meeting were provided to members before the meeting. Approved as presented

**PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Jim Chambers, Roan Mtn. Citizens Club's Trail Ambassador for the Appalachian Trail Community Program – Asking for Board involvement. This is a great accomplishment for the community and town of Roan Mountain. Motion by Randall Jenkins, second by Michael Warren to make CCP&R an official AT Community Supporter. There is no cost involved. Passed unanimously by voice vote.
2. David Ramsey – Ramsey has been hired by the economic development authority to promote the proposed Blue Ridge National Recreation Area. The intent is to develop a branding of the area. Working Brand: Tennessee Blue Ridge. They will start with a marketing program and eventually work on getting an official National Recreation Area designation. Private sector funding would make it happen better than Forest Service. There are no apparent negative aspects. Requested that CCP&R endorse the project. Action deferred.
3. Metin Eryasa and Chris Little, IDEAs Group – Whitewater paddlers are actively looking for an alternative to the overcrowded Nantahala River in North Carolina. People from all over the world kayak the Doe. IDEA is proposing a parking area and landing on school board-owned land

near Hampton High School. If the school board will donate the land, CCP&R could develop it with assistance from IDEAs and the Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts. We put it on our project list. Chris Little will tell the school board that we are interested.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

4. Community tour – Tentatively set for Saturday Feb 25, in the western section of the county.
5. Elizabethton Parks & Recreation – Nothing new. Ken emailed Elizabethton’s report to the CCP&R board.
6. Birding – Roan Mountain pamphlets are now available for \$5. The Herndon Birders are working on a checklist for beginners/children and a more extensive county-wide booklet, and considering developing an app.
7. Mountain Biking – Mike Mains & Ken Gough will meet with a consultant in the next few weeks to discuss a master plan and preliminary engineering for the proposed Sugar Hollow mountain bike park.
8. Roan Mountain Community Park –
  - a. Motion by Randall Jenkins, second by Mel McKay to fund the stage enhancement as budgeted at \$3,000. Passed unanimously:

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Non-voting	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Yes	Michael Warren (1)	Yes
Erik Anderson (2)	Absent	Mel McKay (3)	Yes	Jeff Smythe (4)	Yes
Ken Gough (5)	Yes	J.R Campbell (6)	Yes	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Yes
Mike Melton (8)	Yes	Bonnie Peters (Eliz Park and Rep)	Non-voting		

- b. Motion by Mel McKay, second by Michael Warren to waive the prohibition on camping at Roan Mountain Community Park for the AT Community celebration on the weekend of May 6. Passed unanimously on voice vote.
  - c. Reviewed minutes of the Roan Mountain Recreation Foundation.
9. Tweetsie Extension – No new action
10. Overmountain Victory Trail – Still raising money for project. The town of Watauga is considering a pledge – Mike Melton will pursue. Motion by Randall Jenkins, second by Michael Warren to authorize payment of our pledge of \$5,000 when the request from the Overmountain Victory Trail Association is received. Passed unanimously:

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Non-voting	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Yes	Michael Warren (1)	Yes
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Erik Anderson (2)	Absent	Mel McKay (3)	Yes	Jeff Smythe (4)	Yes
Ken Gough (5)	Yes	J.R Campbell (6)	Yes	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Yes
Mike Melton (8)	Yes	Bonnie Peters (Eliz Park and Rep)	Non-voting		

11. Website – Added a page for the Back Country Horsemen of East Tennessee. Will add pages for the Carter County Hunting & Fishing Association and the AT community soon.
12. Road Cycling – Nothing new
13. Carter County Hunting & Fishing – Working on a web page. Randall is looking at land for a shooting range, but what he’s seen is not great - too far out. He will make another effort at using the Carter County landfill property. Additional education of the area residents and the County Commission is required to pursue the landfill property.
14. Recreation Plan – Dan Reese has closed Alpha Trace Consulting, but provided an outline of the proposed plan. Motion by Michael Warren, second by J.R. Campbell, to cancel our contract with Alpha Trace and hire Dan Reese individually as a consultant to complete the plan at the rate of \$50/hr. up to a maximum of \$5000. Passed unanimously

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Non-voting	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Yes	Michael Warren (1)	Yes
Erik Anderson (2)	Absent	Mel McKay (3)	Yes	Jeff Smythe (4)	Yes
Ken Gough (5)	Yes	J.R Campbell (6)	Yes	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Yes
Mike Melton (8)	Yes	Bonnie Peters (Eliz Park and Rep)	Non-voting		

15. Elk Mills Pocket Park – Per J.R. Campbell, the hoped-for tract is not available. No ability to move forward at this time. Action deferred.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

16. Motion by Randall Jenkins, second by Michael Warren to amend the Budget to donate \$1000 to Roan Mountain’s AT Community celebration for miscellaneous expenses, and to authorize disbursement of the funds on request of the Roan Mountain Citizens Club. Passed unanimously:

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Non-voting	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Yes	Michael Warren (1)	Yes
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Erik Anderson (2)	Absent	Mel McKay (3)	Yes	Jeff Smythe (4)	Yes
Ken Gough (5)	Yes	J.R Campbell (6)	Yes	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Yes
Mike Melton (8)	Yes	Bonnie Peters (Eliz Park and Rep)	Non-voting		

17. Motion by Charlie Mattioli, second by Mel McKay to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Elizabethton Parks & Rec for development of multi-sports parks. Passed unanimously on voice vote.
18. Special Needs Playground – Mel McKay presented need for SNP in the county. There are a great number of children with special needs in the community. There is money available for this type of playground. Could be an economic benefit to the community. Chris Little – There are programs looking to do this in the area. Make a Center of Excellence in the area to meet the needs of all the special needs children in the wider area. Use the expertise of the colleges and rehab companies in the area. We added to our project list.
19. Roy Knispel, Herndon Birders – Requested \$2000 in our 2017/18 budget for 2 additional publications – a promotional flyer and Birding Site Guide.
20. Public Health Agency Grant – We have submitted a grant request for \$10,000 for playground equipment at Roan Mountain Community Park.
21. Budget – (See budget worksheet) – After prolonged discussion, motion by Michael Warren, second by Randal Jenkins to submit a budget request of \$60,000. After further discussion and amendment, revised to \$49,200. Passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on March 2, at 6 PM in the County Courthouse.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Smythe

Vice-President