

## MINUTES OF CARTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

**MEETING HELD August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 at Roan Mountain Community Park, Roan Mountain TN 37687**

**OPENING:** Chairman Ken Gough called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

**ROLL CALL:** Erik Anderson conducted a roll-call. A quorum was present.

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Present	Michael Warren (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)	Present
Mike Melton (8)	Present	Eliz Park and Rep	Absent		

**Guests were introduced:** Bill Watson and Russel Sutton of the BCHET, Denee Mattioli of Herndon Birders Association.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Minutes of the June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 meeting were provided to members before the meeting. Mel made a motion to approve. J.R. seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**PRESENTATIONS:** Bill Watson provided a discussion on BCHET efforts to prepare a parking lot off old Railroad Grade Road. The parking lot is approx. 2.3 acres. Bill showed a concept for parking for Horse trailers, general public using the Tweetsie Extension and an additional ingress point to the Doe River for Hikers and Fisherman. Bill plans to bush hog the lot in the very near future. The Roan Mountain Volunteer Fire Department has volunteered to burn the two brush piles on the lot. Grading and removing stumps is on the Highway Department list of projects. This is an important project with multiple uses.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Carter County Hunting & Fishing Assn.** (Randall Jenkins) Nothing Significant to Report
- 2. Hampton Doe River Access (AKA Green Bridge Park) Pocket Park.** (Ken Gough) Ken has returned the draft operating agreement with the APES to the County Attorney for additional work. We hope to vote on it at our next meeting. The ETWNC Historical society has agreed to do an interpretive panel once the parking lot has been completed. Randall is working on how to kill some of the weeds and proceed with gravelling the lot.
- 3. Community Tour:** (J.R Campbell). Tentatively planning for the Watauga area and the northwest part of the county the Saturday after our October meeting
- 4. Elizabethton Parks and Rec:** The Elizabethton Twins future continues to dominate the City Parks and Recreation activities. They are working a long list of projects and are in the midst of their summer execution of Parks and Rec services. One of their projects is to join with ASU design students to design a revised Covered Bridge offering. They are also replacing a playset in Riverside Park and have offered it to us, JR will look for a place to install it.

5. **Birding:** (Denee Mattioli) The Children’s guide has been distributed and we expect it to be used by schools in the fall. The Herndon Birders are currently working on an update the Guide to Birding in Carter County which will be a big project. Funding to support publication is in our project list.
6. **Mountain Biking:** – (Jeff Smythe) It will be some time before we can make progress on this area as Sugar Hollow is a lower priority for the City at this time and SORBA is tied up on other projects.
7. **Roan Mountain Community Park:** Erik introduced some of the members of the Roan Mountain Recreation Foundation prior to the meeting. The RMRF also provided a meal before the meeting. Significant items requiring Park and Rec attention were 2017-2018 O&M requests for \$3,800 and \$3,000 to replace one of the lawnmowers. Both of these items were in the revised 2017-2018 spending plan (see below). The Stage has been completed and all inspections passed. The Recreation Foundation is ready to turn the stage over to the County. **Erik made a motion that the Parks and Recreation Board accept the stage so it can be added to County property rolls. Mel seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.**
8. **Multi-Sports Park:** (Charlie Mattioli): The effort to pursue a Multi-sport Park has become a very high priority for the Elizabethton Parks and Recreation. We have a MOU in place to work this project with the City. Ken and Mike Mains have been working joint resolution between the City Council and the County Commission asking TDOT for property near Happy Valley High School. The Clark and Meredith properties on Buffalo Creek are still under consideration. Charlie made a motion that we proceed with the joint resolution.
9. **Road Cycling:** (Ken Gough) Nothing significant to report.
10. **Adventure Tourism** – Seven Adventure Tourism districts within Carter County have been approved by the State of Tennessee.
11. **Overmountain Victory Trail Master Plan** – (Mel McKay) Funding has been consolidated and the contract is ready to be signed. It will likely take one year to produce the Master Plan.
12. **Recreation Master Plan:** Dan Reese has provided a first outline which Ken reviewed. \$1,500 has been disbursed for the effort to date and we expect to have a rough draft within the month.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **2017-2018 Spending Plan:** Ken led a workshop on the 2017-2018 spending plan. The plan accommodated the \$25,000 allocation from the County Commission. All projects on the updated project list were reviewed and adjusted. **Mel made a motion that the Board approve the revised spending plan. Randal seconded.**

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Yes	Michael Warren (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)	Yes
Mike Melton (8)	Yes	Eliz Park and Rep	Absent		

**The motion passed unanimously.**

2. **Candidate submission for 2018 TDEC Grant Cycle:** Ken led a workshop on developing a prioritization for potential grant request for the 2018 TDEC grant cycle. The Board reviewed our project list for candidate projects. The consensus of the Board was to pursue a two pronged approach. The first priority is to submit a joint application with the City of Elizabethton Parks and Recreation to begin work on a multi-sports park. As a back-up in case the joint application cannot take place the second priority would be the Carter County Tweetsie Extension Phase 2. Phase 2 would extend the trail from Railroad Grade to the Roan Mountain Community Park. Mel suggested we should also do preliminary planning on other smaller projects which could be submitted on short notice. Some examples of smaller projects included Historic Trail Mapping, a connector bridge in the Roan Mountain Community Park, etc.

3. **Roan Mountain Recreation Foundation Disbursements:** Upon completion of the updated spending plan:

Erik made a motion that: **The Park and Recreation Board disburse \$3,800 for FY 2017-2018 Operations and Maintenance and \$3,000 for a replacement lawnmower.** Mike Melton seconded.

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Yes	Michael Warren (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)	Yes
Mike Melton (8)	Yes	Eliz Park and Rep	Absent		

**The motion passed unanimously.**

4. **Hampton Doe Rive Access Disbursement:** Upon completion of the updated spending plan:

Ken made a motion that: **The Board authorize the Chairman to disburse up to \$5,000 of the funds identified in the spending plan for Hampton Doe River access.** Randall seconded.

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Yes	Michael Warren (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)	Yes
Mike Melton (8)	Yes	Eliz Park and Rep	Absent		

**The motion passed unanimously.**

5. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be Thursday September 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6 PM at the Carter County Courthouse.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Erik Anderson**  
 Secretary