

MINUTES OF CARTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MEETING HELD September 29th, 2020 at 801 East Elk Ave, Elizabethton, TN 37643

OPENING: Chairman Ken Gough called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

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ROLL CALL: Erik Anderson conducted a rollcall. A quorum was present.

Patty Woodby (Interim Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Absent	Michael Warren (1)	Absent
Erik Anderson (2)	Present	Mel McKay (3)	Absent	Lisa McGinnis (4)	Present via Telcon
Ken Gough (5)	Present	JR Campbell (6)	Present	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Present
Mike Melton (8)	Present	Eliz Park and Rep	Absent		

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Minutes of the May, July, and August meetings were provided to members before the meeting. The minutes of May and July were approved as presented by common consent. The minutes of Aug 25th meeting were amended to remove the motions and approvals since that meeting did not have a quorum. Those motions will be readdressed at tonight’s meeting.

PRESENTATIONS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

- Green Bridge Landing** – Wes reported that the Security Light has been installed and is working well. Lisa will check with the shop class at Unaka High School to see if they can paint the swing set. **JR made a motion that we authorize the Mayor to expend up to \$2,000 to install the security lighting. Charlie seconded. This was a revisit of the motion originally discussed in August. A roll call vote was taken:**

Patty Woodby (Interim Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Absent	Michael Warren (1)	Absent
Erik Anderson (2)	Yes	Mel McKay (3)	Absent	Lisa McGinnis (4)	Yes
Ken Gough (5)	Yes	JR Campbell (6)	Yes	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Yes
Mike Melton (8)	Yes	Eliz Park and Rep	Absent		

The motion was approved unanimously.

- Shooting Park** – Nothing Significant to Report
- Mountain Biking** – The City of Elizabethton has given SORBA permission to mark the proposed new trails for the Hampton Watershed.
- Gap Creek Park** – The pedestrian bridge is here. Chris is working on arranging for a crane and completing engineering on the abutments. Charlie broached a potential TN Department of Health “Healthy Places” grant. The grant can be up to \$80K for projects that improve the health and well being of our citizens. It would be an ideal grant for Gap Creek Park. The grant has three phases. They are convene, planning and implement. A no more than 350 word “Letter of Intent” must be submitted by October 2nd. Invitations to participate in the grant program will then be issued in November. Charlie and Ken will work with Chris to develop and submit the letter of intent.

 **RECEIVED**
10-5-2020@ 11:30 AM

5. **Overmountain Victory Trail** – The annual OVTA Victory Trail reenactor march is underway.
6. **Elizabethton P&R** – Charlie reported that the Elizabethton Park and Recreation plan has been approved. Gap Creek park is included as one of the projects in the plan. There is also significant background information that will be useful in our planning update.
7. **Birding** – The Herndon Birders recently met by Zoom. Their work on *Birds of Carter County* is proceeding.
8. **Roan Mtn. Comm. Park** – Erik provided a written report. Thirty Four+ participants participated in the Todd Burleson memorial Stream clean up. Twenty-Eight OVTA reenactors were on hand to dedicate our informational panel on the 1780 encampment. The stage was repainted. Rock pads have been emplaced for the bleachers. Walking path extension is underway. Community labor donated to maintain park exceeded 785 hours this year.
9. **Carter County’s Tweetsie Extension** – TDOT did not give permission for the Highway department to install some more of the Tweetsie Extension signage. Ken will work on a way ahead.
10. **Website update** – NSTR
11. **Road Cycling** – Ken will invite Reneau Dubberley to provide an after action report on this years Roan Groan.
12. **Pocket Parks** – JR reported that Mayor Barnett’s death has delayed efforts of their group organizing a 501 (c) 3 for Fish Springs. They will be resuming their effort and prepare for a Community meeting. **Erik made a motion that we pledge \$10,000 to a future Fish Springs Community Park entity once it is established. Charlie seconded. This was a revisit of the motion originally discussed in August. A Roll Call vote was taken:**

Patty Woodby (Interim Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Absent	Michael Warren (1)	Absent
Erik Anderson (2)	Yes	Mel McKay (3)	Absent	Lisa McGinnis (4)	Yes
Ken Gough (5)	Yes	JR Campbell (6)	Yes	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Yes
Mike Melton (8)	Yes	Eliz Park and Rep	Absent		

The motion was approved unanimously.

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13. **Blevins Road Lighting:** Ken will take over this project.
14. **Master Plan update planning:** Erik and Charlie presented a Strategic Plan process update. The general approach is to accomplish a sampling survey in October, document Park and Rec accomplishments, conduct a stakeholders analysis, update future needs and refine recommendations for a Master Plan update. The board approved the general approach and preliminary schedule. The board also approved the survey questionnaire and authorized Charlie and Erik to start working the survey with the Superintendent of Schools. **Charlie made a motion that up to \$500 would be authorized out of Petty Cash to copy, distribute, and process surveys. Mike Melton seconded. A roll call vote was taken.**

Patty Woodby (Interim Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Absent	Michael Warren (1)	Absent
Erik Anderson (2)	Yes	Mel McKay (3)	Absent	Lisa McGinnis (4)	Yes
Ken Gough (5)	Yes	JR Campbell (6)	Yes	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Yes
Mike Melton (8)	Yes	Eliz Park and Rep	Absent		

The motion was approved unanimously.

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Charlie and Erik will finalize the survey and meet with the Superintendent of Schools to deploy the survey.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Milligan University Tweetsie Connector:** Ken reported that Adam Bean has formed a team of interested individuals to pursue a connector from Milligan University to the Tweetsie Trail. The University President has endorsed the project. Adam has met with Mike Mains.
2. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be October 27th at 6:00 PM in the Mayor's conference room.

ADJOURNMENT: The Chairman closed the Meeting at 7:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Anderson
Secretary

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