

BELLA VISTA VILLAGE LAKES JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES, February 15, 2017

Committee Members in Attendance: Kelly Austin, Ron Blackwelder, Matt Champagne (Vice Chairman), Marvin Macedo, Harrold Robinson, Rick Yorman (Chairman)

Bella Vista POA Board Liaisons in Attendance: Tom Judson, COO

Management Liaisons in Attendance: Rick Echols, John Urquhart

Guests Present: Lynn Atkins (Weekly Vista), Don Dragland

Call to Order: Chairman Yorman called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm. Six committee members were present.

Additions/deletions to the Agenda: There were no changes to the published agenda from January 18, 2017.

Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes from the Lakes JAC meeting on January 18, 2017 were approved as submitted.

Management Comments:

1) Rick Echols/John Urquhart - Lakes, Parks and Fisheries Department

- Looking into installing a kayak/canoe storage rack at Granton Park on Loch Lomond. Currently conducting cost/benefit analysis including whether to purchase a prefab unit or having POA personnel construct. This is not in the budget, so potential income from rental is an important factor, but if approved installation could be completed this Spring. The Lakes JAC voted to endorse pursuing this project.
- Lake Rangers made 443 contacts in January, a 15% increase over last year. Favorable weather has increased lake usage and contributed to increased Ranger contacts.
- Loch Lomond drawdown is complete. An 8-inch gate remains open to maintain the current drawdown level during seawall construction at Lakepoint Event Center complex. Construction is underway and anticipated to be complete on schedule, in early March. It was noted that all launches on Loch Lomond remain usable to a large extent, and with some degree of caution.
- Fish habitat improvements include sinking approximately 600 surplus Christmas trees on Lake Avalon. This is an annual event completed with the help of the Bella Vista Fly Tyers Club.
- Electroshock sampling has been conducted on Lake Brittany.

- Two ponds on the Berkshire golf course have been prepared for aquaculture use this Spring. These are the same ponds used in 2016 for rearing crappie and walleye. Two additional ponds are being considered. This year's emphasis will be crappie and catfish.
- Additional aquaculture activity is being conducted at the enclosed fishing dock at Lake Avalon. During this activity, the dock will be closed temporarily.
- Rick and John are still looking for someone to coordinate the GRIP (Goose Reproduction Intervention Program). There is serious concern regarding the high number of geese seen in the area, especially Lake Bella Vista, which is in Bentonville. Rick is working with the City of Bentonville to develop a control plan.
- Two training dates for 2017 water sampling teams are is tentatively scheduled for March 28 and 30, 2017.
- Fertilization is an important tool for maintaining appropriate health on some of the lakes in Bella Vista. The budget for lake fertilization, particularly important for improving fishing Loch Lomond, is likely not sufficient to meet goals in 2017. The Lakes JAC is considering ways to address this shortfall.

POA Board Member Liaison Comments:

- Tom Judson – Conducted annual POA Committee Orientation training for the Lakes JAC. Committee members were asked to submit Signature Pages confirming that training had been completed and acceptance of their role and responsibilities.

Open Forum:

- Don Dragland submitted a proposal regarding installation. Topic was addressed by Rick Echols (see above).

Old Business: The members of the Lakes Committee volunteered 28 hours since their last meeting on January 18, 2017.

- Lakes water sampling teams – Training for sample team is scheduled for 3/28 and 3/30 (covered above)
- Lakes monthly inspections - Inspection list has been updated and inspections are ongoing.

New Business:

- Loch Lomond kayak/canoe storage rack? Don Dragland submitted a proposal regarding installation. Topic was addressed by Rick Echols (see above).

Announcements and next meeting:

- The next Lakes' JAC meeting will be held at the Bella Vista Village Country Club Board Room at 2 pm on Wednesday, March 15, 2017.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.