

POA Recreation Joint Advisory Committee
August 10, 2020

Chris Stockman called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm via Zoom.

Attendance:

Committee members: Chris Stockman, Gary Griffin, Denise Klinger, Janet Conboy, Jackie Gain, Debbie Sorensen, Scottie Smith

POA Staff: Judy Griffin, John Urquhart, Rick Echols, Joan Glubczynski, Jessica McCrary, Jessica Anson, Tammie Loyd, Tom Judson

POA Liaisons: Mary Sinkus, Teah Bidwell, Jerry Hover

Guests: none

Minutes from prior meeting approved and sent by email.

Amenity Reports

Blowing Springs Park and RV Park: None

Riordan Hall Complex and Tennis: None

Branchwood Complex and Trail – Debbie Sorensen: Everything looking good; reservation system working well; trash, building, general maintenance appeared good.

Tiree Park (Lake Loch Lomond) – Denise Klinger: Everything in excellent condition, clean. 8 people enjoying the pavilion.

RV Storage and Lake Ann Park – Jackie Gain: Three portalets (2 very clean, 1 without toilet paper; 1 by trailhead not clean and without toilet paper); interacted with member in pavilion, who indicated its very quiet during the week.

Gun Ranges – Gary Griffin: rifle range, very busy; pistol range, only two people using; trap and skeet, busy; John Urquhart indicated that construction in the area included adding kiosks with information and benches for users waiting.

Tanyard Creek and Lake Avalon Park – Janet Conboy: notices two faded signs along the trail; trails generally free of debris; observation area cordoned off, but users still ducking under the cabling which prohibits access to rocks in front of waterfall. Suggested adding railings to narrow space. Joan Glubczynski noted the

area was problematic for years. Cabling recently added but more disturbance of soil to add to it would invite erosion. Two areas with signage to deter access to creek and off-trail area also being ignored. Bike trail appreciated by members. Pavilion clean; bathrooms also clean.

Lake Avalon fishing docks and hatchery well kept. Dam nor beach and other activity areas were not fully utilized; people like how clean the beach area is and how many activities are available. Kelsay, staff person for the snack bar, was amazing helpful and personable.

Loch Lomond Recreation Complex – Scottie Smith: grass looked good; people were out with dogs. Women’s bathroom was locked; men’s bathroom had water on the floor and trash in drain. Rick Echols noted that leaking pipes for over a year, with bathrooms cleaned everyday now instead of once a month. One bench had broken placque, with sharp edge.

Metfield Complex – Chris Stockman: Lots of users at mini golf, pavilion, pickleball courts; kids on bikes. Men’s bathroom door is still hanging.

London Park (Lake Windsor) – Chris Stockman: 3-4 trailers around. Fish cleaning station spotless. Dogs being walked as well.

Question: where do fish guts go? Rick Echols indicated that rangers daily dump in the lakes near the stations; Lomond and Lake Ann stations are near stagnant water, so debris is removed completely. He also noted that Phil Ward was recognized in Celebrating Success for the design of the stations, which now are stabilized.

Question: Scottie Smith asked about opening Metfield fitness. Joan noted that it would be evaluated at the end of August in hopes of reopening in September.

New Business

Committee member term clarification: Chris Stockman indicated that, while Janet Conboy and Scott Dreas filled vacancies for 3-year terms, Scottie Smith and Denise Klinger were completing 3-year terms which had only one year left. Therefore, Scottie and Denise would be free to apply for new 3-year terms in 2021.

Meet and Greet: Deb Sorensen announced that it was scheduled for August 22 at 10:00 am as a Zoom meeting. Currently there are 53 reservations, not including spouses/partners. Requests came from 15 different states, including people who were interested in moving to Bella Vista and landowners who had not yet built. Program will include orientation to the POA and City, as well as to amenities.

Annual Committee Member Training: Tom Judson presented an overview of the relationship between the Board and its joint advisory committees, as well as to the specific requirements for the Recreation Committee (attendance, etc.).

Side Note: Tom indicated that Activity Card purchases had risen 36% in 2020 over the 2019 numbers (8K in 2019 vs. 11K in 2020); boat registrations also rose to 800; Guest passes increased 60% (3K in 2019 vs. 5K in 2020).

Branchwood Disc Golf Tournament: Issue reviewed regarding guests as well as members to participate in the tourney. Jessica Anson noted the tourney in early October, 2020 will be the second annual; volunteers developed and maintained the event which includes amateurs and pros. The mix of participants is about 70% members and 30% guests (generally ranked as pro), all ages among the 22 in 2019. Amateurs win merchandise; pro's, money, all covered by the entry fees. Disc golf is under the Golf JAC, open to the public, and attracts younger participants. The Recreation JAC voted to allow both.

POA Staff Reports

Tom Judson (Chief Operating Officer): Tom reiterated the increases in activity cards, boat registrations and guest passes sold in 2020 over 2019. Unknown whether that is a result of 2020 plan or COVID-19.

Rick Echols (Superintendent of Lakes, Parks and Fisheries):

Fishing Derby was a partial success due to weather; 550 fish were added to the Lake as a result of other communities not obtaining their usual numbers. Kids aged 5-15 participated; a second course will be held.

Tanyard Creek bathrooms are simply overrun by Park and Trail usage, so bathrooms are now cleaned daily.

Lake Avalon problems (typically Memorial Day thru July 4th) with high school-aged kids seem to have been mitigated with the addition of Dependent Cards limiting guests to five.

Lake ranger hours usually number 40-45/week; now shooting for 60 hrs. Last week got 82 committed through Labor Day.

Joan Glubczynski (Director of Recreation and Wellness):

New trailheads will acquire posts when the trails are completely finished

Outdoor fitness classes at Riordan completely sold out. Continuing Yoga at the beach

Metfield design never included fitness center. Floor not of quality or durability for moving equipment, like at Branchwood, to accommodate exercise. Will have to go to reservations after Labor Day.

Branchwood pickleball/tennis courts are in disrepair. Pickleball lines have been painted. Short courts better suited to pickleball than the longer tennis courts. Blowing Springs Trail Greenway connector to Metfield is almost finished. Playgrounds have remained closed; kids don't naturally social distance; no consistent supervision by parents. While many requests for reopening have been received, liability prevents it.

John Urquhart (Gun Ranges):

Cancer Challenge Shoot occurred over two days (practice, then competition) with 70 participants (all screened for COVID); fall-like numbers this summer with 30% increase over 2019.

Conceal and Carry classes in August are full, with a waiting list.

Time limits have been an issue this summer with the large number of shooters which have shown up at various times. Those are being enforced accordingly.

Next Committee Meeting September 14th, 2020 4:00 pm

Submitted by Janet Conboy, RJAC Secretary