

POA Recreation Joint Advisory Committee

4:00 – 5:00 p.m. July 19, 2021

Attendance

Members: Janet Conboy, Scott Dreas, Chris Stockman, Denise Klinger, Mary Elizabeth Williams, Deborah Lukotch, Gary Griffin, Steve Gardner, Maci Echols

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

Board:, Jackie Gain, Mike Abb, Jan Hagan

Guests: none

Chris Stockman called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

Amenity Reports:

Amenity: Branchwood Building, Disk Golf and Trail

Committee member: Deborah Lukotch

Review Month: July 2021

Overall Condition:

1. Two wooden benches next to pickle ball court in need of repair/paint. Would recommend replacing all outdated benches with the brown metal ones used along the trail to provide amenity continuity.
2. Metal shelf laying on the ground near the fence near entrance to pickle ball court should be removed, safety hazard.
3. Three shrubs around the front dead or dying, most likely from the harsh winter.
4. Playground sign for "No Smoking" rusted and looks dated.
5. Playground "Welcome" sign covered with black mold stains.
6. Library book return receptacle paint peeling.
7. Outdoor patio is a lovely feature, was being used by two members, however, needs TLC. Plastic furniture has black stains, metal furniture rusted and peeling. Items (tables, bench, etc.) laying along wall unsightly.

Areas for Review:

1. There is a brochure holder inside entrance to complex, only about half full, requires restocking. I am not sure how you go about donating for benches in someone's memory? Might be an idea to create a brochure with that information.

2. There is an empty room in the facility, not sure if it is for classes? Only information I could find was classes at Riordan and the pool schedule.

3. With the success of the “community sponsored” pickle ball classes, are we considering offering Pickle Ball classes? Especially for children, would be good to create some youthful/family offerings at this facility.

Member Interactions:

1. Spoke to a parent who indicated a need for a playground area/equipment for younger children. This is only suited for ages 5-12.

Additional Observations:

On my way to Branchwood, I passed three wayfinding signs that included: Highlands and Scottsdale Golf, Branchwood, and Lake Point. Nothing mentioning Loch Lomond Complex and it is along this route. Should consider adding to the signs

General Comment:

- Joan: Room that is empty now (after exercise equipment moved after the COVID restrictions) is dedicated to fitness classes, beginning in September. Birthday parties are held there as well.

Amenity: Loch Lomond Park area

Committee Member: Steve Gardner

Review Month: July 2021

Overall Condition:

The dog parks looked good. Pooper scooper bags we're well-stocked. Garbage cans were emptied and the grass has been mowed recently. But with recent rains, probably is about due again. Benches and Picnic tables looked good. Everything is clean and tidy. No recommendations

The ballfield looks good. Garbage cans are emptied. Nothing appeared to need repair.

Pavillion

Trash cans were completely full at the pavilion (this was noon on Sunday 18th)

A few limbs had blown down from the tree next to the restrooms (probably from previous night's storm). Picnic tables and area were neat and clean. Restrooms were neat and clean and garbage has been emptied.

Dog parks in excellent condition, freshly mowed. Pooper scooper bags fully stocked.

Amenity: Tiree Park

Committee Member: Janet Conboy

Review Month: July 2021

Overall Condition:

- Generally the park is well groomed and maintained. Several picnic grills had charcoal remains but trash had otherwise been emptied. Bathrooms were clean, except minor debris on the floors. Everything was clean in the picnic areas and boat launches.

Areas for Review:

- Mystery cups remained in the ground near one picnic area. Rick took a look at them and could ascertain no purpose for them. The mystery continues.

Amenity: Lake Avalon Park

Committee Member: Janet Conboy

Review Month: July 2021

Overall Conditions:

- Excellent!
- Restrooms could not be assessed due to water problems onsite (again). Porta Potties were relatively clean
- Park area superbly maintained

Areas for Review:

- Grills were generally clean. However, large grill closest to shelter area was rusted through on the coal bed (both metal sheets).

Member Interactions:

- People were using all equipment and recreation areas across the park. A few members were enjoying the beach. A few older youth indicated it was their first time at Lake Avalon Park and were having great fun!

Additional Observations:

- Spoke briefly with Josh the lifeguard and concessionaire on duty: he indicated that it was a slow day after the weekend. Asked him if there were any issues that needed attention, to which he replied nothing except restrooms. He, as always, is friendly and knowledgeable. Staff at Lake Avalon has always been on top of member needs.

Amenity: London Park

Committee Member: Chris Stockman

Review Month: May 2021

Overall Condition:

Excellent condition overall, restrooms nice and clean. Nothing unusual to report.

Member Interactions:

Grandparents were escorting grand kids on their first kayak float. They love the park and were so happy to be having the experience with their family.

Additional Observations:

Very busy evening. 10 kayakers in the cove. 4 boats launching for evening fishing.

Amenity: RV Park & Blowing Springs

Committee Member: Chris Stockman

Review Month/Date: July 2021

Overall Condition:

Great condition overall. I see folks are enjoying the gear garden regularly and the area remains perfectly clean and orderly. Looks like there was RV and tent camping space available during the week. The Greenway trail is under steady use by families, walkers, and bikers of all types. It looks good and the landscaping is well groomed in the park but it's badly overgrown with weeds past Blowing Springs.

Member Interactions:

A person using the greenway had a flat and suggested that the gear garden or RV park office be stocked with tubes to help stranded cyclists.

This would be an awesome service and I can help build a nominal list of materials to stock. [Tom commented on the sale of tubes, indicating that they have intended to do that from the outset. He asked Chris to provide a suggested list of items that might be available for sale to bikers]

Amenity: Gun Ranges

Committee Member: Gary Griffin

Review Month: July 2021

Overall Conditions:

- Great, clean, well-maintained

Areas for Review:

- Really none. All major projects completed.
- Spoke with both rangemasters: trap and skeet are a bit slow after the rains; rifle and pistol have been busy on both sides. Both very happy with improvements.

Amenity: Tanyard Creek

Committee Member: Denise Klinger

Review Month: July 2021

Overall Conditions:

I visited on Sun. 6/27 at 9:30 am, and on Sat. 7/10 at 8:30 am. The areas that are regularly maintained were in pretty good shape. The grass is due to be mowed, and someone, likely a volunteer, had applied weed killer along the northwest part of the trail to keep the grass back. The TC volunteers have tackled some of the Poison Ivy but more needs to be done and the POA will take this on. The Pavilion was fairly clean, there were a lot of leaves and some litter on the floor, the trash cans about half full.

Areas for Review:

Restrooms – I purposely visit early in the morning to see their condition. On the first visit, both bathrooms needed cleaning and had paper towels and toilet paper on the floor. One of the woman's toilets appeared clogged. There was toilet paper in the grass outside of the restrooms as well. On the second visit, both needed cleaning and the men's bathroom looked like the sink had a leak, the bathroom floor was wet with a large puddle. There was discarded clothing hanging over the stall door, and outside in the grass. Can hand dryers be installed to remove the expense of paper towels and the clean up they require? The water fountain has been replaced on the wall between the bathrooms but it is rusty at the bottom with much of the paint missing. Along the paved portion of the trail there were hundreds of webworm larvae which were hanging from the trees at head and body height, making it very difficult not to walk into them. They are decimating the trees to the point that some are becoming bare. Can they be sprayed? Is there a reason there's no sign at the waterfall warning that it's dangerous and requesting people not go on the rocks? While you can't legislate common sense and good behavior shouldn't we attempt to protect the POA from those who don't use good judgement?

Member Interactions:

On both visits I had the chance to speak with people: a mom and teenage son who said it is always beautiful and peaceful and that it provides good exercise for her son who she wants outside more, she had no complaints or suggestions. The second visit I spoke with a young couple with their dogs who live here and say they don't come that often because it's always so crowded but when they do come, it's early morning. They had no other suggestions or comments

Additional Observations:

I requested input from Randy Hamm, the head of the Tanyard Volunteers, and he relayed an email exchange he had with Rick Echols where Rick has agreed to begin looking at repairs to the waterfall overlook and a narrow spot in the trail near the creek. Additionally, the volunteers have painted the sign posts (~200 of them) and have begun replacing worn sign faces with green and white overlay stickers that are substantially less expensive than replacing the metal sign beneath. Thank you both very much Rick and Randy, this is a great start. Due to the heat and bugs of the summer, the volunteers are cutting back their hours until the fall. They deserve special recognition for their contributions in maintaining Tanyard. There are other areas that need to be addressed, specifically, the restrooms, overall trail degradation and invasive species. I have created a PowerPoint presentation for additional information and photos and will present it when time allows

Amenity:: Lake Ann

Committee Member: Mary Elizabeth Jones

Review Month: July 2021

Overall Conditions:

- Grounds are phenomenal

Areas for Review:

- Water spigot in the picnic area won't work after several attempts. If it's that difficult and is meant to be in use, then directions need to be posted.
- Graffiti on picnic tables made by Sharpies. Looks really tacky.
- At the waterfall, graffiti is also on rocks. Unclear how to ameliorate that.
- Orange fencing – purpose unclear. Need more permanent barrier. [Rick indicated that it is temporary construction fencing related to the Lake Ann sinkhole.] Need to ID the sinkhole, otherwise people will feel free to climb in that area. A real safety concern.

Amenity: Metfield Complex

Committee Member: Maci Echols

Review Month: July 2021

Overall Condition:

- Overall Metfield park looked good. I could see my family and others picnicking there. Grounds were well taken care of. Everything was clean and orderly. The pool was clean and inviting. I saw four people using the pickle ball courts. I also counted five people in the pool. A few using the bike skills park.
- Metfield clubhouse was clean and looked ready for use. The equipment's tv are up and running. Also, the equipment is back in the workout room. When we went I only saw one member working out but I could see there is plenty of room for members to space out if so desired. Restrooms were clean at the clubhouse, pools and playground. All tables and benches looked good.
- There are a few things that need to be addressed. There are two dead trees that need attention. The playground could use fresh mulch due to washing from the rain also a few benches in the play area would be nice. There just isn't any spot to sit and watch your kiddos play. At the bike skills park picnic area there were two plies of branches and tree limbs that need attention. I spoke with both ladies at the pool and Metfield clubhouse, neither had any complaints about the amenity.

Areas for Review:

On the pavilion by the parking lot there is a small metal sign bent and could be a hazard (see picture).

Member interactions:

I spoke with a member on July 7th. They really did not have any complaints and over all were happy with the facility. They were pleased with the pool and how clean it always is along with the playground. They were however disappointed that the mini golf was taken out. They were so looking forward to playing this summer now they must drive to Riordan Hall. They did ask if there could be a splash pad put in now. Also, today as we were leaving, we ran into three members who showed up to play mini golf. We directed them to Riordan Hall, the group looked to be around 18-20 years of age. One said he had been going to Metfield since he was a kid to play and seemed down that the mini golf was no longer there.

Amenity: Lake Ann Park, dam and fall area

Committee Member: Mary Jones

Review: 07/17/2021 @ 8:30 AM

Overall Condition:

Lake Ann Park/ dam and water fall are so beautiful and peaceful. There are always people at this park/ lake. The lights at all the facilities were working, that lawns were well mowed and maintained. The garbage cans were empty. The doggy bags were full. The grills looked well used but in good working order and the port-a-potties appeared in useable condition.

Areas For review (pictures will be attached for review):

Picnic/ dock area far eastside:

We were unable to get the water spigot to work by the picnic shelter.

The signage in the picnic shelter needs to be replaced.

there was graffiti on a few of the picnic benches that need to be cleaned off or painted over.

There is an area down by the dock that is very jagged and even has a hole looks dangerous. Can it be fixed?

The roof on the information sign is looking worn. One of the cement picnic benches has a big crack and a hole in one of the seats.

By the dam/waterfall area westside:

The rails need to be painted on the docks the paint is chipping in multiple areas

There is graffiti on one of the boulder/ rock wall near the falls.

Also there is the orange caution gate (can we have a fence built to match the other side?) looks like a construction zone.

The port-a-potty hand sanitizer cover just hangs down does not lock into place.

Member Interaction:

When I was at the park there were 3 trucks there but all were on the water. When I went to the dock side there was one car but no one on-site to chat with.

Amenity: Riordan Hall Complex & Tennis

Committee Member: Scott Dreas

Review Month: July 2021

Overall Condition:

Riordan Hall is in good condition. All operations, meetings, exercise classes and groups have returned to normal schedules. Kingsdale Pool reports no issues and seeing lots of swimmers this summer. The staff also commented that they are receiving many compliments on the new deck around the main pool. The Kingsdale Pavilion is in good condition with no issues to report at this time. The playground is in good condition. There are a couple of sections of the wood fence that need to be repaired but poses no safety issues. The mini-golf course is holding up great over the summer and still seeing many players making use of the upgraded amenity. The tennis center is busy, having just completed one youth tennis camp and was in the middle of the second when I visited with one more camp to go for this summer. The weather has improved to allow the resurfacing on courts 3 & 4 and the pickleball court, just waiting for the contractor to schedule a time. Jake had no issues to report from the tennis center.

Areas for Review:

The wood fence along the playground has a couple of sections that need to be repaired.

New Business

Annual committee training was conducted by Tom Judson.

Committee administration – Leadership Nomination and Election

- Chris Stockman was the sole nominee for the position of Chair. He was elected by unanimous consent.
- Denise Klinger was the sole nominee for the position of Vice Chair. She was elected by unanimous consent.
- Deborah Lukotch was the sole nominee for the position of Secretary. She was elected by unanimous consent.

Proposed Berksdale West Park (Tom Judson presented)

- Outreach to solicit member input regarding repurposing two holes of the Berksdale golf course which are no longer in use: conducted email survey (525 comments), Facebook sites, fielded comments. Only members comments were counted. Results: 64% positive; 30% negative; 5% undecided.
- Discussion at the Board-level for past two-three months. Will come to a vote on July 22.
- Vision: adding a tunnel to avoid safety issues related to the adjacent crosswalk, a parking lot, playground equipment, covered picnic area, and a looping trail (not otherwise accessible to disabled, strollers, etc in the park system) of .6 mi in length. The trail will be funded through the Trailblazers and maintained for three years. No POA funds will be used in the project.

2022 Recreation Budget Kick-off

- Five projects identified for consideration: all are primarily capital repair items of which 2-3 might realistically be funded: A) Rebuild two Kingsdale Tennis courts as part of the vision to rebuild two/year of the six that need to be addressed; B) Riordan Hall Renovation; C) Kingsdale Wading Pool and Metfield Wading Pool (resurfacing needs every 3-5 years); D) Blowing Springs Park Road repaving and repair; E) Resurface Metfield Pickleball Courts to keep them usable.

Joan Glubczynski:

- Pickleball: while classes are always welcomed, right now priority is to meet the current demand. Meeting scheduled with players of diverse levels of skill about how to rotate play, assure that guests don't displace members, etc.
- Lake Avalon Beach: water for restrooms continues to be a problem on the utility side, not with POA; issue is that too many lines tied to the main water line. Unclear when it will be resolved.
- Blowing Springs: added more picnic tables beyond those at the Gear Garden to accommodate our rentals (establishing separate area for them)
- Tanyard Creek: trial run for Willy's Ice Cream Truck (no financial impact on POA)

Rick Echols:

- Loch Lomond drawdown will begin November 24, 3"/day until it hits 4' on December 10. That level will remain until end of February
- Ranger contacts 5875 in June vs. 7900 in June 2020 (which demonstrates the impact of COVID)
- Small dog park incident resulted in damage to a gate. That's been fixed.
- Tanyard Creek and Loch Lomond trails are being sprayed for poison ivy.
- New hire to the Lake Psychology team.

John Urquhart:

- June activity at gun ranges has been slower, but not unexpected
- We're trying to repair some wash spots at the pistol range, which always seems to encounter water overload.

August 9, 2021 4 pm is time for next meeting. Location is the POA Board Room.