

POA Recreation Joint Advisory Committee

September 13, 2021, Boardroom 4:00 pm

Attendance

Members: Scott Dreas, Denise Klinger, Mary Elizabeth Williams, Deborah Lukotch, Gary Griffin, Maci Echols

Zoom: Chris Stockman, Janet Conboy

Staff: Joan Glubczynski, Judy Griffin, Rick Echols, Tom Judson, John Urquhart, Jessica Anson, Corrine Morin

Board: Jan Hagan

Zoom: Mike Abb

Guests: Brian Michelson, new member

Denise Klinger called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

Amenity Reports:

Amenity: Branchwood Complex and Trails

Committee Member: Deborah Lukotch

Review Month/Date: September 2021

Overall Condition:

Went at noon on a Wednesday, over 20 cars in the lot. Majority of activity was on the indoor fitness equipment and pool, a few people walking outdoors, but it was a very warm 88 degrees.

- The two wooden benches at the pickle ball court have been repaired and painted, look much better.
- The new pickleball signs are installed and look good.

Areas for Review:

1. There is an old Weekly Vista newspaper rack that isn't serving any purpose, it's a bit unsightly, should just remove it.
2. There is a dying tree branch hanging over the walkway area, going clockwise just before the 11th disk hole. I don't think it will fall soon but should be removed next time someone is out there with equipment.

Member Interactions:

Had a member inquire about the availability of an indoor walking track for extreme weather days.

Amenity: Blowing Springs Recreation Area

Committee Member: Deborah Lukotch

Review Month/Date: September 2021

Overall Condition:

Thursday evening, RV park and Gear Garden very active. A lot of families with small children everywhere. Park over all clean and maintained.

Areas for Review:

1. You cannot make a reservation for the RV park online. It is starting to generate negative online reviews.
2. Showers are accumulating grass clippings from mower, and green mold growing on cement slab.
3. Just beyond RV parking as you continue toward the back of the park is a "No Trespassing Private Property Bella Vista Members and Guests Only" sign, yet the Gear Garden is beyond this point and open to the Public.

Member Interactions:

Spoke to a POA member staying at the RV park due to home remodeling, really like the park overall.

Additional Observations:

Long term should consider playground equipment if RV park and Spring area continue to draw so many young families.

Amenity: Loch Lomond Park

Committee Member: Steve Gardner

Review Month/Date: September 9, 2021

Grass was freshly mowed around the whole park

Dog parks:

Trash cans were emptied, and pooper bags well stocked at the dog park. And overall, the dog parks looked in great condition.

Ball Park:

Ball game was in progress and the field and area looked good.

Pavilion area:

Landscaping is all in excellent condition. Bathrooms were clean and well-maintained

Pavilion looked in great shape, the grill was clean and ready for use and all the trash cans were emptied. Picnic tables were all clean and in good repair

Gazebo and area were all in good shape.

The walking trail was clean of any debris.

No concerns or new recommendations for this period.

Amenity: Tire Park

Committee Member: Janet Conboy

Review Month/Date: September 2021

Overall Conditions:

Lawn and landscaping well maintained. Picnic tables, grills, playground equipment

clean and usable. Bathrooms at the point of needing cleaning, but still in good shape.

Additional review:

Steve Gardner indicates that "there is a limb (not a branch) that overhangs into the boat parking lot as you're headed toward the boat ramp. The limb is a bit low and just cost me \$1200. By looking at the limb, it has cost many many boaters money as their boat canopies hit the limb. There is NO bark anywhere on the bottom of the limb, indicating how many times it has been hit. It really should be cut off."

Additional Observations:

None.

Member interactions:

There were several people fishing from the bank, picnicking, and swimming just offshore. Most people I have encountered using the park, other than boaters. I asked about frequency of use. It was the first time most had come. Couldn't tell if they were POA members

Amenity: Lake Avalon Park

Committee Member: Janet Conboy

Review Month/Date: September 2021

Overall Conditions:

Picnic tables, grills, activity equipment and grounds were in tip-top shape. A few shrubs need volunteer trees and weeds cleaned out, but generally were healthy. Bathrooms were locked (assuming water issues remain). Porta-potties were debris-free, but clearly needed some sanitary touch-ups.

Areas for Review:

None

Additional Observations:

Three people were floating in a canoe; a kayak was lying on the bank, as were two orange paddleboats (?) Unclear to me if water equipment was rented. There were no instructions as to how to reserve them. Could be my ignorance.

Member Interaction:

A large party was using the shelter, grills and activity areas. Separately a few people were swimming along the shore beyond the beach area. The grillers indicated that relatives from Texas and Oklahoma were joining locals for a family reunion. They loved the venue.

Amenity: Metfield Complex

Committee Member: Maci Echols

Review Month/Date: September 2021

Overall Conditions: Overall Metfield park looked good. Grounds were well taken care of. Everything was clean and orderly. Metfield clubhouse was clean. Restrooms were clean at the clubhouse and playground.

Areas for review

- Up by the upper restrooms there are a few limbs down.
- Couple of picnic tables are starting to show wear and tear on the upper picnic area with paint chipping off
- There is a grill at the bike skills part that needs to be fixed or replaced due to a big hole from rust and wear and tear.
- Gravel wash down from playground to parking lot.

Member Interactions: I spoke with a member and his son on September 11th. They really did not have any complaints and over all were happy with the playground. His son was upset about a big slid being removed but happy with the new playground. Also spoke with a lady at the clubhouse and she and her husband use both workout places at Metfield and Riordan. She said that her husband was wanting a different method to signing in instead of on paper all the time. She also was wondering about opening earlier or staying open later but overall, she was happy with the equipment and such.

Amenity: Riordan Hall Complex & Tennis

Committee Member: Scott Dreas

Review Month/Date: September 2021

Overall Condition:

Riordan Hall is in good condition. All operations, meetings, exercise classes and groups are operating on normal schedules. Alysha was busy getting ready for the Christmas sale event. Kingsdale Pool reports no issues and still looks in great condition. The Kingsdale pool will remain open later in September this year and has cancelled the Dog Days of

Summer event this year. The Kingsdale Pavilion is in good condition with no issues to report. The playground is in good condition. A few issues reported in the "Areas for Review" section. The mini-golf course is still seeing many players making use of the upgraded amenity. The tennis center is busy. The resurfacing contractor had to reschedule courts 3 & 4 due to additional work at the University of Arkansas tennis facility. Jake also reported that more lights on courts 1 & 2 and 3 & 4 are out and hoping that can justify the cost of getting the equipment to replace the lights.

Areas for Review:

The air conditioner for the Snooker room at Riordan Hall was not working on the day of my visit. There are several sprinkler heads around tennis courts 3 & 4 that were damaged and leaking water. There is a fence rail leaning up against the backside of the pickleball court connected to tennis courts 3 & 4. One trash can lid is broken on the Kingsdale playground. One of the concrete decks for the picnic tables at the playground has a lot of erosion around and under two edges of the deck. This could pose a hazard and if enough dirt washes out from under the deck could cause it to break (pictures of all issues attached)

Member Interactions:

Talked with a few tennis players waiting for their time on the courts and they shared how nice it is to have such a great tennis facility available to Bella Vista and the POA members.

Amenity: Trails/Greenway

Committee Member: Mary Elizabeth Jones

Review Month/Date: September 9, 2021

The grass was mowed, it is well maintained and was getting a ton of use. The only thing I noticed was there was a lot of down pine needles on the trail which could be a hazard for bikers, but I feel like it is that time of year and there is not much that can be done about it unless we had it blown off every day which is not practical.

Member Interaction:

There were many people on biking on the greenway and walking their dogs. They loved having a paved area that is so pretty to walk their dogs. I did not get a chance to stop a biker.

Amenity: Lake Ann Park

Committee Member: Mary Elizabeth Jones

Review Month/Date: September 9, 2021

Overall Condition:

Lake Ann Park/ dam and waterfall are so beautiful and peaceful. There were about 40 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:

Picnic/ dock area far eastside:

Everything that I could check out looked fantastic (there was party going on in the shelter area)

By the dam/waterfall area westside:

There is the orange caution fencing around sinkhole, can we please get a caution warning sign for this area explaining what it. It is dangerous not having it labeled and is a true hazard.

Everything else looked great. They even mowed the dam, and they fixed the hand sanitizer holder in the port-a-potty.

Member Interaction:

At the Lake Ann park I spoke to a gentleman, He was wondering if there were plans to pave the gravel parking pad there? I also spoke to many others utilizing the park and they just loved it and it was their favorite lake/ area in Bella Vista for outdoor activities.

Amenity: Tanyard Creek

Committee Member: Denise Klinger

Review Month/Date: September 2021

Overall Condition:

I visited on Sun. 9/5 at 8:00 am, there were 2 cars in the lot. The grass was mowed and trimmed but the Pavilion was filled with dead leaves. Can that be blown out, so it's kept neater? There was also party debris and cake on the tables.

The trails and areas near water where people congregate were clean and free of debris and left behind belongings.

The restrooms were surprisingly clean but without ventilation were very warm inside. The men's bathroom has an unpleasant odor.

Carroll Electric has severely cut back the trees and underbrush on the northern most section of trail, so it's completely exposed.

Areas for Review:

The Waterfall Overlook. I'll be showing the photos that Randy Hamm took recently of the underside of the concrete overlook and the erosion that's taking place. It's currently being supported with steel posts, but this should NOT be a long term or permanent solution. There is orange barricade that's intended to keep people off the overlook, but it isn't, it's easy to step over it and stand on the cement. This has been in place for approximately 4 years per Randy. The hillside above the overlook is bare from people walking on it making it easy to erode in a heavy rain. There are trees with exposed roots, so they are not well anchored, and one tree is leaning. We are potentially one severe storm away from this being a costly problem, particularly since people like to see the falls when the water is really coming over. This needs to be reviewed for safety and a long-term solution found for this area sooner rather than later.

Member Interactions:

I spoke with a couple from Bella Vista who were there hiking. They come often to Tanyard and love it. They had no recommendations or comments. Their biggest complaint was regarding Carroll Electric's treatment of the trees and underbrush.

Additional Observations:

None at this time.

Amenity: Gun Ranges

Committee Member: Gary Griffin

Review Month/Date: 09/11/2021

Overall Condition:

The overall condition of both sites is very good. They are clean and well kempt. Restrooms are clean.

Areas for Review:

There are no long-term projects or any improvements that are visible. Both Range Masters like the improvements at their sites. The Rifle and Pistol range picnic area is complete.

Member Interactions:

No member action during this visit.

Trap and Skeet Range - Spoke with Carrol (Range Master). The range was slow on this day. The weather report for high temperatures may have kept shooters away. Activity remains consistent. There was a shoot on Sunday 912, and two scheduled for October.

Rifle and Pistol Range – Spoke with Loren, POA Ranger (standing in for Royce, Range Master) and the range was slow on both sides. On my day visiting, there were eight shooters. The day before, there were thirty-six shooters.

Additional Observations:

None at this time.

Amenity: London Park

Committee Member: Chris Stockman

Review Month/Date: September 2021

Overall Condition:

Excellent condition overall, restrooms nice and clean. This is a place you want to show visitors.

Areas for Review: None

Member Interactions: Gentleman fishing from shore. Moved here a month ago and simply just loves the place.

Additional Observations: A few cars and boat trailers in the parking area.

New Business

Guest comments regarding Tanyard overlook and off trail opportunities

Open discussion regarding youth activities (67.5% of Bella Vista is under retirement age according to 2020 US census) keep an ear out for member requests and as critical mass develops create/recommend solutions, keep on radar for long term planning. In the meantime, Marketing to ramp up communication on current offerings. Keep in mind as we consider solutions how we will address Nonmembers, children of renters, etc.

POA Staff Reports:

Tom Judson: Activity cards, guess passes, boat registrations up over ly, most growth in kayaks. He also said they have met with two engineering firms to address the Tanyard Creek Waterfall Overlook.

Rick Echols: Discussed Loch Lomond draw down, reducing ranger hours due to reduced activity this time of year, maintenance and repair updates, and new kayak rack at Lake Norwood.

John Urquhart: New range manager at rifle/pistol range, attendance down partly due to ammo availability.

Joan Glubczynski: Responded to amenity reports, discussed new pool and marina hours, new class schedules, and Branchwood pickle ball paddle holders to be in soon. Need to rent a lift to fix lights at Riordan tennis courts. New software coming to improve overall member experience with amenities.

Judy Griffin: Reminder about new Member meeting Saturday at 10

Next Committee October 11, 2021, 4:00pm Boardroom