

**POA Recreation Joint Advisory Committee**

**December 13, 2021, Boardroom 4:00 pm**

**Attendance**

Members: Denise Klinger, Mary Elizabeth Williams, Deborah Lukotch, Maci Echols, Chris Stockman,

Zoom: Gary Griffin

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

Board: Jan Hagan

Zoom: Jackie Gain

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

**Amenity Reports:**

**Amenity:** Branchwood  
**Committee Member:** Deborah Lukotch  
**Review Month/Date:** December 2021

**Overall Condition:**

Went November 20 to watch the Disc Golf Tournament. All 90 entry slots filled. Everyone was having a good time at the tournament. There was also a group playing basketball, one pickleball team, and several people participating in open swim and people out walking the trail.

**Areas for Review:**

None currently

**Member Interactions:**

Spoke to a few of the tournament participants, all having a really good time and enjoying the course.

**Additional Observations:**

The lights were on in the racquetball courts which made them more noticeable if you went into the side room. Continuing from last month's conversation, really need to advertise those amenities that are unique to Bella Vista or less obvious than the larger ones.

**Amenity:** Blowing Springs Recreational area  
**Committee Member:** Chris Stockman  
**Review Month/Date:** December 2021

**Overall Condition:**

Park entrance, main park, Gear Garden and Arboretum look great. Grassy areas free of leaves. Restrooms clean but the shower on East side of the building has some bar soap embedded in the wall so maybe a power wash in the future. No issues seen in the RV area. Looks like capacity is available. Foundation and groundwork for the tiny cabins looks near completion. There is a new path cut behind the tent pad #9 going east. Wonder what this is.

**Areas for Review:**

There is a water pump near the pavilion that is broken.

**Member Interactions:**

None.

**Additional Observations:** Visited early Friday morning and there were lots of people walking on the greenway inside outside of the park. Trail Blazers was removing the swings from the curved tree when I was there.

**Amenity:** Loch Lomond Recreation Complex  
**Committee Member:** Deborah Lukotch  
**Review Month/Date:** December 2021

**Overall Condition:**

Was there noon on a Saturday, only 10 cars, very quiet. Both dog parks in use, several out walking the trail. The lady's restroom ceiling had been cleaned from the last report. Other issues from last month not yet been addressed, the most concerning the broken jagged rusted fence post. I placed a safety cone over it to ensure no one would get hurt

**Areas for Review:**

The pavilion is showing some weathering. Should clean it come spring and treat the wood to prevent further damage.

There is a wire fence running along the base of the dam. It is falling in two areas near each end

The top right-hand corner of the sign on the small dog park has come loose from the fence

There are two signs under the flagpole that say thanks to Cooper communities. They are in very poor condition. Would be nice to replace them at some point.

**Member Interactions:**

None

**Additional Observations:**

None





**Amenity:** Metfield Complex  
**Committee Member:** Maci Echols  
**Review Month/Date:** December 2021

**Park Area:**

Overall, everything looked great. Saw a few families out enjoying the afternoon. Grounds looked good and the restrooms were clean. I noticed the new addition to the retaining wall.

**Member interaction**

I spoke with a member playing basketball with his two kids. He stated that they just moved here in June and that was their first time playing on the court. The dad was overall happy with the park and such. The only thing he asked was that the basketball goals be changed from the round backboards to the square ones. I also spoke with two other members, and they too were happy with the park. They loved the pool when they were able to use it during the summer. The other member stated that he didn't know there was a playground even though he parked in the parking lot to get to the pool. All three members stated they liked the bike trails as well.

**Areas for improvements**

Limbs down from the storm need to be cleaned up

Also, on the restroom doors it looks like someone took paper wads and tossed them at the doors

**Metfield Clubhouse:**

I couldn't make it to the clubhouse during business hours, but I did find two reviews online from members.

**Review 1:** Helpful and pleasant staff and other POA members. Gym is well laid out and Clearly attention has been paid for an equipment which facilitate a thorough workout. Cleaning of equipment after use is expected, as is mask use and social distancing for covid precautions. Personal trainers are allowed as numbers permit.

**Review 2:** Very little equipment at the fitness center, nice staff though. Crazy hours.

**Amenity:** Riordan Hall Complex & Tennis  
**Committee Member:** Scott Dreas  
**Review Month/Date:** December 2021

**Overall Condition:**

Riordan Hall is in good condition and decorated for the holiday season with a Christmas tree in the lobby and the lights in the grass by the building in the shape of a Christmas tree. The facility is hosting on average 2 Christmas gatherings a week. The coffee/hot chocolate/snack bar is back in the main lobby. All the normal activities were in progress with a dance class in the main hall, snooker players in the billiards room, and individuals working out. The bathrooms and locker rooms were good order with nothing to report. Kingsdale Pool is closed and winterized until next summer. The Kingsdale Pavilion is in good condition with no issues to report. The playground is in good condition. The newly resurfaced basketball court looks like new. The new wood fence between the playground

and Riordan Road looks very nice. The mini-golf course has weathered the first summer nicely and still looks like it is in new condition. Players are continuing to use this amenity even with the cooler weather. The tennis center was very busy the day of my visit despite the temperatures being in the low 40s. 5 of the 8 courts were in use. Jake informed that he is currently collecting bids for the tennis court reconstruction for courts 7 & 8 that was approved by the board. He also mentioned that he had enough money in the budget to purchase some awnings for a few courts that will attach to the existing fence to provide shade for the benches inside the tennis court.

**Areas for Review:**

The small retaining wall on the path by the mini-golf course needs repair with some of the railroad ties falling down.

**Member Interactions:**

Talked with a few tennis players on the newly resurfaced courts on 3 & 4 and they mentioned how nice the new surface is and hard to schedule as everyone wants to play on the new surface.

**Amenity: Trails/Greenway and Lake Ann Park**

Committee Member: Mary-Elizabeth Jones

Review Month/Date: December 2021

**Overall Condition:**

Lake Ann Park/ dam and waterfall are so beautiful and peaceful. There was 1 person at this park/ lake that I could chat with (not on the lake). The 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.

The Greenway was well used and well maintained with zero issues.

**Areas for Review:**

Picnic/ dock area far eastside:

Looks great super clean and well maintained. That you for addressing the vandalized porta-potty. The lights were not working in the shelter, Are they off for the winter?

By the dam/waterfall area westside:

The hand sanitizer is no longer in the porta-potty and needs to be replaced. Also, someone dumped a treadmill near the waterfall, and it needs to be removed.

The Greenway:

It looked well taken care of, very usable. Not in very high use now.

**Member Interaction:**

At the Lake Ann waterfall, I spoke to a POA member. They love this area and like to bring their baby there to see and listen to the waterfall. It has a calming effect.

**Amenity: Tanyard Creek**

Committee Member: Denise Klinger

Review Month/Date: December 2021

**Overall Condition:**

I visited on Tues. 12/6 at 10:30 am, there were 2 cars in the lot. The grass was mowed and trimmed; the trash cans were mostly empty. The Pavilion was clean and free of leaves. The trails and areas where people congregate were clean and free of trash. The restrooms were clean, and Ron was installing a new sink in the men's room. It felt very cold in the women's restroom and the space heater wasn't warm to the touch so that may need to be checked.

**Areas for Review:**

Trails and Social Trails - In several places, primarily where there's the most foot traffic, the dirt trails show severe wear and have widened with many jutting rocks. The photos below show the steps up between 9 and 11-inches making navigation difficult for small kids or older adults that may not be totally steady on their feet. People compound the widening issue by walking around the high steps. There are numerous tree roots that are tripping hazards.



Social trails which run along streams or those created as shortcuts allow for faster erosion of the stream bank and quicker spread of invasive plants. They also run to unsafe vistas. Consider making them permanent trails by adding gravel so they don't erode or closing them.

Pond update - I visited the pond with another Master Naturalist, Cheryl Hall, and unfortunately, we don't feel it can be restored by simply removing invasive species. It's very shallow and isn't holding water well. Because it wasn't maintained, it has filled with silt over time and with the grasses and other plants it has become a low, boggy area. It's a pond no more.

**Member Interactions:**

None! We were the only ones there.

**Additional Observations:** Several of the "new" green signs have already been defaced and per Randy Hamm, they are having trouble getting the needed paper. Chalk it up to a supply chain issue.

Summary - Tanyard is now 30 years old and in need of improvements from top to bottom including its bathrooms, bridges, trails, and removal of invasive species. The waterfall area is a safety concern and needs repair asap. If this work isn't going to be done, people need to be kept away with fencing and signage.

Tanyard is Bella Vista's "city park" and usage is only increasing, but it isn't getting the maintenance it needs to be kept up to a good standard and doesn't shine as one of our most used amenities. Since this isn't a member only amenity, what other sources of funding can be found to keep it in good shape?

Please consider investing the needed funds into Tanyard as soon as possible.

<b>Amenity:</b>	<b>Gun Ranges</b>
Committee Member:	Gary Griffin
Review Month/Date:	December 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.

**Member Interactions:**

No member action during this visit.

**Trap and Skeet Range** - Spoke with Carrol (Range Master). October was a good month. There are a few projects on the board for the near term: Install a new rail fence along the range, install sliding roofs on the Trap range and install lighting as well. The Bathrooms are scheduled to be made ADA compliant.

**Rifle and Pistol Range** – Spoke with Royce, (Range Master). On my day visiting, the range was slow. The past few weeks had been very busy. Back in May 2021, I had brought up an issue with the internet speed and number of gigs available to the site. It has again become a problem with excruciatingly slow speeds.

(Note) I'm thinking/hoping the company responsible for the installation of the new point of sale system has taken this into consideration for both ranges.

**Additional Observations:**

None currently.

**Amenity:** London Park  
Committee Member: Chris Stockman  
Review Month/Date: December 2021

**Overall Condition:**

Excellent condition overall, restrooms and fish cleaning station nice and clean. Grounds clean and no storm impact from Friday's storms.

**Areas for Review:**

None.

**Member Interactions:**

None.

**Additional Observations:**

One woman walking her dog and one boat trailer in the parking lot.

**POA Staff Reports:**

**Tom Judson:** Activity cards November TY +12% over November LY. Boat registration +11% Nov TY vs. LY, Guest passes +60%. POA working session last week presented a potential to consolidate member services and water. As an added benefit Metfield would be able to expand by 40%.

**Rick Echols:** Update on Loch Lomond drawdown, 1 week delay, back up March 8. Collecting bids to fill Lake Ann sinkhole, ranger activity flat to ly, working on cleaning up fallen trees from this weekend storm.

**John Urguhart:** Attendance has been good; activity levels follow the weather. Working on several construction projects over the winter.

**Joan Glubczynski:** Working on concrete expansion joints at Branchwood pickle ball courts, surface within next couple week, followed by fencing. Water fountain and shade structure anonymous donation. 16 swings donated for the trails; mini golf remains popular, and tennis is thriving.

**Jessica Anson:** November 20 Disc Golf tournament at Branchwood huge success. All 20 slots filled. Participants from CA, CO, AZ, KS, OK, MO, and 42 from AR (10 from Bella Vista) 5 of the top 7 finishers from AR, played two rounds of 18 holes. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to an individual from CA, originally from Ozark, AR, he is ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in the world, ended 17 under par. Partnered with Highlands for lunch and after tournament "hangout".

**Judy Griffin:** Reminder new member meeting Saturday at 9:30, 70 signed up.

**Next Committee Meeting January 10, 2022, 4:00 pm, Boardroom**