

BELLA VISTA VILLAGE LAKES JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES January 12, 2022

Committee Members in Attendance: Matt Champagne, (Chairman), Ross Gerner (Vice Chairman) Carol Phillips (Secretary), Paul Bickford, Arell Wasson, Jason Adams, Rick Yorman, Kelly Austin

Bella Vista POA Board Liaisons in Attendance: Jerre Barron, Sandy Fosdick

Management/Other Staff Liaisons in Attendance: Tom Judson, Rick Echols, Kim Carlson and Corinne Morin

Guests Present: Frank Kennedy, Dock 64 Loch Lomond

Call to Order: Matt Champagne called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm with eight committee members present

Additions/deletions to the agenda: Review of the planned cleanup of the Loch Lomond boat Launches areas during the present lake drawdown.

Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of the December 2021 Lakes JAC meeting were approved as submitted

New Business:

Management Comments:

- **Kim Carlson**, Director of Marketing & Communications
 - Introduced employee Eric Halvorsen: the department's new Digital Content Manager who will manage the website, app and social media content which are important parts of the large NorthStar project implementation
- **Tom Judson**, General Manager
 - Reviewed a chart displaying improvements over 3 years of increases in several major businesses and amenities participation. These increases are attributed to the 2020 plan! Note: 85% of new boat registrations are attributed to kayaks.

Comparisons	2021	2020	Increase (percent)
Activity Cards	15,950	14,092	+1,858 (13.2%)
Boat Registrations	7,118	6,432	+686 (10.7%)
Guest Passes	13,092	8,648	+4,444 (51.4%)
Golf Rounds	172,681	165,805	+6,875 (4.1%)
Range Buckets	60,996	56,286	+4,710 (8.4%)
Lot Sales	\$793,050	\$461,395	+\$331,655 (71.9%)



- **Yorman:** Tom, do you have any idea why guest passes are going through the roof? **Judson:** Likely because Rick's Lake rangers are much more aggressive with guest pass rule enforcement
- **Wasson:** When will the results of the members survey be published? **Judson:** They will be announced at the regular 4th Thursday Board meeting at 6PM. We received 4000 member comments which turned into a 131-page document that will be posted to the Website for public viewing.
- **Bickford:** The Bella Vista Fly Tyer Club collects aluminum beer (mostly) cans at most of the POA golf cart barns for conservation reasons as well as to produce club income. We know golf rounds are up big-time because the beer can heap now ready for delivery to the Rogers AR recycle facility is as large as it was last September. It was anticipated few cans would be collected for recycling during the winter months but the reverse, so far, is true.
- **Rick Echols, Lakes, Parks and Fisheries**
 - My department has been challenged by Covid. We do have some cleanup to do at Loch Lomond. The work done earlier to put the stream at Granton back in place to keep the water from overflowing into the parking lot wasn't successful as needed and a new situation has developed where the water goes around the corner depositing gravel in front of the boat ramp. The cleanup will be done ASAP and certainly before the water returns to normal level from the drawdown.
 - Lake rangers made about 1000 contacts for December which is about normal for this time of year.
 - Stocked Lake Brittany with an above average number of trout
 - Collecting Christmas trees at Pontoon Park to be packaged to be submerged in lake Winsor as fish habitat. About 200 have been received so far. **Champagne:** Do we generally place Christmas tree fish habitat into one lake per year? **Echols:** Yes. **Champagne:** Does the Bella Vista Fly Tyer Club generally help with this task? **Echols:** Yes. **Bickford:** Phil Ward and two club members delivered about 75 unsold Walmart donated trees. The next day or so several members returned to drill 3/8 diameter holes in the base of the trees through which wire can be inserted to attach cinder blocks used to keep the fish habitats submerged below the lake surface.
 - Plans are to dredge/dig a channel 30 to 40 feet off shore near the Tiree parking lot to accommodate bank fishing. The channel should be sufficiently close to shore to be within the range of an average spinning reel cast.
 - Loch Lomond refill date has been moved back to 3/8/22 because of recent heavy rain.
 - Lake Ann sink hole will be filled soon but no firm date set. The lake must be drawn down 2 feet to allow the contractor to do its work. **Bickford:** What's the cost? **Judson:** The cost is \$103,000. There are two Lake Ann repair issues ... one much more expensive than the other.
 - The sink hole repair is smallest and least expensive
 - The lake spillway repair is the largest and will be the most expensive. Engineers are working now to determine a cost estimate.
 - **Champagne:** When will the boat stickers be available for purchase? **Echols:** A printer problem was discovered and they had to be reprinted. This effort was delayed because of supply chain and Covid issues. Remember: boaters aren't out of compliance until 4/1/22. **Yorman:** When will the ponds be built, filled with water and ready for use? **Echols:** I don't anticipate the ponds will be ready for use this year. We decided that one pond bottom will be covered with a "liner", and the other with clay brought in from another location. We will continue to "roll the dice" and continue using the golf ponds for fish fry raising.
 - **Champagne:** Next agenda item: Public sponsored events in 2022 approval. **Echols:** Only the Metfield pond kids fishing derby is planned and it will be held sometime in May or June. The Arkansas Fish and Game provides the free fish for the event with the stipulation it be open to the public i.e., non-member families.

- A motion was made to approve the Metfield Kids fishing derby, it was seconded, and passed unanimously.
- A motion was made to approve the June 4th Kayak demo days, it was seconded, and passed unanimously.
- **Kim Carlson:** We are putting in the mid-February **Connections** with the Loch Lomond drawdown dates.
- **Gerner:** When will we know which of the Capital Projects the committee proposed will be accepted and the amount of funds allocated? **Judson:** This information is available on the website but I'll cover a few.
 - Paving the Rayburn Lake Dam roadway
 - Windsor Lake fishing dock with some financial help from the Fly Tyer Club
 - Truck for the Lakes & Fisheries Department Lake Rangers
 - Two aquaculture ponds
- **Gerner:** Are there items that didn't get funded that you are concerned about? **Echols:** Considering the big picture I feel my department received a funding fair share. Our Dam roadways (except Brittany) are in disrepair and plans are to repair one per year for the next several years.

Open Forum:

- **Frank Kennedy** dock 64 Loch Lomond
 - I've witnessed two lake drawdowns and observed an increase in erosion, and to me, this should be a real concern. I'm wondering who is responsible for monitoring this problem? Also, who is monitoring property lot clear cutting?
 - Lomond resident owners are concerned about excessive sound from "party" boats. It's a growing problem and lake rangers have little capability to help.
 - **Judson:**
 - Lakes do erode and it is a constant challenge to control it.
 - Lot clear cutting is a City issue
 - Rental party boat noise and other VRBO (vacation Rental By Owner) issues are City concerns, and methods to control them are being considered.
 - **Echols:** The Granton channel was originally carved out and marked with buoys because it was shallow and this was necessary to make the ramp work. A professional mapping company was hired in 2015 to take measurements; therefore, we have a reference point from which to compare current measurements.

Champagne: Other comments or issues to discuss for this meeting? If not meeting adjourned.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:54pm

Respectively Submitted, Paul Bickford, stepping in for Secretary Carol Phillips