POA Recreation Joint Advisory Committee

February 13, 2023, Boardroom 4:00 pm and Live Stream

Welcome/Call to Order

Visitors: Maureen Seymour – Re open swim at Branchwood Pool

Attendance:

Members: Deborah Lukotch, Mary-Elizabeth Jones, Brian Mickelson, Maci Echols, Scott Dreas, Kathleen Coughlin

Staff: Tom Judson, John Urquhart, Rick Echols, Jessica McCrary, Jessica Anson, Clay Lewallen

Board Liaisons: Jan Simms

Deborah called the meeting to order

Amenity Reports:

Amenity: Metfield
Committee Member: Maci Echols
Review Month/Date: February 2023
Metfield Complex
Overall: Everything looked good and clean. They were opening when I got there.
Areas for review: None
Member interaction: None

Metfield Park
Overall: Everything looked good. Bathrooms looked good. There were 4 people playing pickle ball on the new courts.
Areas for Review: The porta potty that's down by the courts was knocked over. It's not in the best spot either due to the land are not being flat there.

Amenity: Branchwood
Committee Member: Deborah Lukotch
Review Month/Date: February 2023
Overall Condition:
Sunday late afternoon, pleasant sunny day. Every outdoor amenity in use except shuffleboard. All pickleball courts full and equal amount waiting a turn. All indoor areas busy; open swim, racquetball, fitness center, pool players, and a birthday party. When I left there was not an open parking space.
Areas for Review: None
Member Interactions: None
Additional Observations:
Walking path was still ice/slush covered and very difficult to walk in many areas, particularly if there was an incline.
Came across a social media conversation where a member was not aware there was a sauna in the facility although they come to the rec center every day. Might consider adding wayfinding signs at the door to the locker room, shower, and sauna. Same for racquetball downstairs.

Amenity: Loch Lomond Recreation Complex
Committee Member: Deborah Lukotch
Review Month/Date: February 2023
Overall Condition:
Late sunny afternoon, sunny and pleasant weather. Very active, a lot of people walking, a group in small dog park. All walkways clear and dry.
Areas for Review: The large dog park had several large areas of pooling water.
Member Interactions: None
Additional Observations:
Quite a few people were walking to the top of the dam, many with their dogs. Might consider a dog waste station and trash can in the area.

Amenity: Blowing Springs
Committee Member: Kathleen Coughlin
Review Month/Date: February 10th, 2023
Overall Condition:
The park was quiet, it was a cold day. The bathrooms were clean and very heated. Everything was clean, no trash anywhere or debris runoff. Very clean, per usual.
Areas for Review:
The septic tank at camp site 1 overflows when it rains. Lisa received a complaint that day that it was running into the creek.
Member Interactions:
It was cold, so nobody was out and about, but I chatted with Lisa at the front office, and she said that bookings are still steady for spring and summer. March is almost booked up. Plans for food as the Gear Garden looks to open next month?
Additional Observations: N/A

Amenity: Tiree Park
Committee Member: Brian Mickelson
Review Month/Date: February 2023
Overall Condition:
The lawns are well groomed and there was little to no notable litter. The trash receptacles were being emptied. The outhouses were stocked and relatively clean. Mutt Mitts were available. The personal watercraft storage rack is in good condition with all boats secured. Other structures are in good condition, except as noted:
Areas for Review:
Due to recent rainfall, there was a considerable amount of groundwater runoff traversing the park grounds in the restroom and main parking areas. With excessive water flow at the east corner of the restroom building, eventual damage will likely occur to the foundation and structure. Efforts should be made to divert this flow.

Member Interactions:
Spoke with two gentlemen who were fishing at the ramp and dock. They had both stated that they'd been fishing at and on the lake for 20+ years. One commented that he hoped they would remove debris and scrape the inlet to Tiree cove during the next lowering of the lake level.
Additional Observations:
There are no additional observations for this report.

Amenity: Granton Park
Committee Member: Brian Mickelson
Review Month/Date: February 2023
Overall Condition:
The lawns are well groomed and there was little to no notable litter. The trash receptacles were being emptied. The outhouse was stocked and relatively clean. The fish cleaning station was clean and in good condition. The personal watercraft storage rack is in good condition with all boats secured. Other structures are in good condition, except as previously noted.
Areas for Review:
Barring maintenance and upkeep items mentioned in previous reports, no additional items were noted for review.
Member Interactions:
There were no members or guests available from which to solicit feedback on the amenity and recreational activities at the time of evaluation.
Additional Observations: Motor vehicle(s) continue to vandalize the lawn on the west side of the park entrance and drive.

Amenity: Riordan Hall Complex & Tennis

Committee Member: Scott Dreas

Review Month/Date: February 2023

Overall Condition:

Riordan Hall is currently closed for remodeling construction.
Kingsdale pool closed for the season.
Kingsdale tennis center is in good condition. There was quite a bit of activity the day of my visit and the tennis center office is currently on their winter schedule. Kingsdale playground equipment is in good condition and there were quite a few kids playing on the one sunny day in between the storms. Kingsdale mini golf course is in good condition. Kingsdale pavilion is in good condition.

Areas for Review:

1. There is a tree branch that looks like it may have broken off during the winter storm. The tree is located on the hill by the shuffleboard court.
2. The eroded areas on the playground between the bridge and the swing looks like some work has been done on it, however it still needs some fill and gravel and get it back to level.

Member Interactions:

None

Additional Observations:

None

Amenity: Lake Ann
Committee Member: Mary-Elizabeth Jones
Review Month/Date: February 12, 2023, 9am
Overall Condition:
The lawns were mowed and maintained. The garbage cans empty. The doggy bags full.
Areas For review:
Picnic/ dock area far East side Lake Ann:
Looks clean and well maintained. There's still the concrete picnic bench that is all broken down and probably needs to be fixed or replaced. Also, there is an orange cone out it appears they are replacing the grill. I noticed there was a kayaked hooked up vertically on the kayak rack is that normal?
By the dam/waterfall area West side:
The port-a-potty needs to be replaced or re-positioned the door will not stay closed What I found most concerning is the far end of the lake Ann Falls bridge fenced area. It looks like the ground is eroding away and need to be addressed this could be a safety hazard.

Amenity: London Park
Committee Member: Mary-Elizabeth Jones
Review Month/Date: February 2023
Overall Condition:
This park looks fantastic as always.
Member Interaction: On FB I had a gentleman ask if the POA would be replacing the Lake Windsor London ramp sign. I explained the cost and that we had talked about sign replacement at our last meeting.
Additional Observation: None

Amenity: BV POA Shooting Range
Committee Member: Matt Zimmerman
Review Month/Date: February 2023
Overall Condition:
I visited the gun range on February 4th. The weather was nice after a bad week of weather. There were several members using the gun range and rifle area. This is the most activity on both ranges I have observed. Always get greeted nicely when signing in. I used the rifle range, and everything was in good condition. The areas were clean and in good order as usual. As for the rest of the areas they were still covered from the ice event we had during the week. However, all walking areas were clear of any ice, which was good. Targets were nicely stacked that were not in use. The gun range area was clean and in good order as well. Signage around the area is in good shape. Bathroom was clean and in good working order.
For all the bad weather we had during the week it was nice to see that the walkways and range areas were cleared and able to be used since the weather had turned out nice and a lot of members had turned out to use the gun/rifle range.
Areas for Review:
Nothing currently.
Member Interactions:
I spoke to one member on the rifle range, and he said that he comes a lot to use the range and enjoys doing so. He said that he was thrilled to be able to use it this Saturday being he had been stuck in his house all week due to the ice.
Additional Observations: None
Amenity: Tanyard Creek

Committee Member: Chris Stockman
Review Month/Date: February 2023
Overall Condition:
Despite the ice and rain of the last two weeks the Tanyard Creek area is in great condition. The erosion control measures taken on the main North South Trail are holding well. The waterfall is roaring and the grass in the front is starting to green. No issues to report.
Member Interactions: N/A

Amenity: Trails/Greenway
Committee Member: Chris Stockman
Review Month/Date: February 2023
Overall Condition:
The trails are in good condition overall.
Areas for Review:
None
Additional Observations:
The TAP (Trail Adoption Program) volunteers are now organized under the Trail Blazers. Originally started to help maintain the Back 40, the program now has over 500 trail volunteers in the NWA area and is being professionally managed by Ciara Marie Logan of the Trail Blazers. Formal group workdays and volunteer achievement awards are being planned to make sure the Bella Vista trails are kept in tip top shape.
This trail is not in character with any of the trails in the Bella Vista system.
It is about 8 ft wide, and tree lined.
Discarded fencing lies on the top part of the feeder trail.
Trail runs straight downhill with no water control features.

It is a great benefit to be able to add a trail from one's home to the main system, but I recommend that regulations be established for these feeders to promote sustainability and protect our land as hundreds of feeder trails could adjoin our trail system in the long run.

Visitor:
Maureen Seymour - Branchwood lap pool/adult swim. Requested to expand Jessica to follow up.

POA Staff Reports:

Rick Echols: Lake Avalon draw down is at 42". The leaf pack by the WIP structure will be removed by hand. Removed the gravel bar. Doing stream bank stabilization on Sunshine Creek. POA rangers (1,056 contact in January - consistent with previous years. 23 people were removed and 25 by boat) Another

kayak rack will be installed at Lake Ann. New Batter's box pad will go in next month. Removing debris at Lake Avalon spill way and replacing concrete. Currently fully staffed. Advertising in March for 2-3 lake rangers. Christmas trees will be added to Loch Lomond next week. Training to be able to burn dam since the mowers cannot make the steep inclines.

John Urquhart: Fully staffed. Attendance up 60% YOY. Still plenty of room in the classes. Rifle racks in the rifle/pistol had been replaced. Thank you again to the ground crew for all their work after the ice storm.

Jessica McCrary/Clay Lewallen: Riordan remodel is going well. Underground plumbing and steel is being finished. Exterior framing is going up. Flea in the Park will be October 6th & 7th - will start taking applications. Easter Egg hunt will be April 8th at the Kingsdale Park. April 22nd is kids sign up day. Signups will remain open until the slots are filled. Kids karate was full - taking a 3-4 week break and then will run another session. Exploring additional Friday classes at Branchwood as well as expanding Thai Chi and yoga flow.

Next Committee Meeting March 13th, 4:00 pm Boardroom and Live Stream