

MINUTES OF CARTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MEETING HELD Sep 6th, 2018 at 801 East Elk Ave, Elizabethton, TN 37643

OPENING: Chairman Ken Gough called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

ROLL CALL: Erik Anderson conducted a roll-call. A quorum was present.

Rusty Barnett (Mayor)	Absent	Bob Acuff for Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Present	Michael Warren (1)	Absent
Erik Anderson (2)	Present	Mel McKay (3)	Absent	Jeff Smythe (4)	Present
Ken Gough (.5)	Present	J.R Campbell (6)	Present	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Present
Mike Melton (8)	Present	Eliz Park and Rep	Absent		

Guests were introduced: Erica Malpass, NETREP, Chris Lennon of OverMountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited (OMTU) joined the meeting later. Erica is working on improving coordination of outdoor recreation organizations in the region.

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Minutes of the August 9th, 2018 meeting were provided to members before the meeting. The minutes were approved by common consent.

PRESENTATIONS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Board Composition:** Ken reported that he and J.R. Campbell had been elected by the County Commission to serve another 4 year term.
- 2. Green Bridge Landing:** Chris Schuettler will install the entrance sign, benches, historical marker, picnic table, lighting and trash can, and spread gravel provided by TVA. Laura Eryasa is working on painting the doors of the changing house. **A dedication is tentatively set for Saturday October 6th at 10:00 AM - details to be provided.** Fixing drainage, and installing playset and parents' benches will be worked at a later date.
- 3. Shooting Park:** Nothing Significant to Report
- 4. Happy Trails Park:** Erik provided a written report. In August the Carter County Highway Department hauled another 142 tons of gravel that was spread by Chris S. and the BCHET. Gravel from TVA was also delivered and deposited on the corner closest to where the APE river access will be built. Potable water is now on site. Plans for the remainder of the calendar year include signage, security lighting, manure bunkers, hitching posts picnic tables and benches. Restrooms will be addressed next year funding dependent.
- 5. Mountain Biking:** Nothing Significant to report. Wes Bradley of APE may have a lead on a location for a Skills Park
- 6. Gap Creek Park:** Ken and Charlie reported that no progress has been made due to budget deliberations. They will focus first on establishing an agreement with Elizabethton Parks and Recreation. Then they will go to the Budget Committee, probably in November, with a request for funds to build a bridge, security fence and start the design and engineering.

7. **Overmountain Victory Trail:** The board reviewed the primary and alternate routes for Section 1 of the OVT. The board will wait on a recommendation from Mel as to the way ahead.
8. **Community Tour:** Nothing Significant to Report
9. **Happy Valley Park:** Mike Melton reported that the State environmental review is underway and should be completed any day. Building and Grounds has agreed to build a fence and the Highway Department has agreed to build and access road.
10. **Elizabethton Parks and Rec:** Nothing Significant to Report
11. **Birding:** Hampton High School horticulture program and the Herndon Birders will work together to build and install bird houses at GBL and Happy Trails Parks. The board will wait to hear from Mel on a recommendation for our level of participation in the 2019 and 2020 birding events.
12. **Roan Mountain Community Park:** Erik provided a written report. He highlighted two upcoming events. Carter County School system 4th graders will have an Over Mountain Victory Trail event at the Roan Mountain Community Park on September 27th. The Todd Burselson memorial stream clean-up will take place on Saturday September 29th. Erik requested that the O&M subsidy for 2018-2019 be disbursed . **Charlie made a motion to disburse the budgeted \$4,700 to the Roan Mountain Recreation Foundation for Operations and Maintenance. J.R seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken:**

Rusty Barnett (Mayor)	Absent	Bob Acuff (Commission Liaison)	Yes	Michael Warren (1)	Absent
Erik Anderson (2)	Yes	Mel McKay (3)	Absent	Jeff Smythe (4)	Yes
Ken Gough (5)	Yes	J.R Campbell (6)	Yes	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Yes
Mike Melton (8)	Yes	Eliz Park and Rep	Absent		

The motion passed unanimously.

13. **Tweetsie Extension:** Ken has a few signs that need to be placed to complete this project.
14. **Website:** Nothing Significant to Report
15. **Pocket Parks:** J.R. tells us there is a Dollar Store coming to Fish Springs that will use approximately 2 acres of a 6 acre plot we saw last year. He will keep us posted on future developments.
16. **Doe River Fishing Trail (DRiFT):** Chris Lennon of OMTU introduced the plans for a fishing trail that would go from Bear Cage Road upstream as far as The State Park. The First phase concentrates along Old Railroad Grade. OMTU is in the fundraising stage. OMTU is working with USFS, TWRA, private landowners and the RMRF. Happy Trails and a Disc golf course fishing spot were identified as potential fishing spots on the DRiFT that are located on County Park land.
17. **Chamber of Commerce Breakfast:** The Park and Recreation Board is sponsoring the Nov 15th Chamber of Commerce breakfast. The breakfast will be at 07:30 in the Pine Room of the Franklin Fitness Center. Jeff will work with the Chamber of Commerce to make the arrangements. Board members are encouraged to attend and be there by 07:15

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Thank You for prison work crews and supervisors:** The Board discussed how to go about thanking the Carter County State-prison work annex and the Carter County Sherriff's office for their support on Park and Recreation efforts. Erik will draft a letter to the Warden and the Sherriff's office expressing our thanks.
2. **New Commissioner Workshop:** The planning office has set aside time during their new commissioner orientation workshop for Ken to do a Parks and Recreation presentation. The workshop will take place later this month or next month.
3. **Project Priorities for 2018/2019:** Ken led an effort to review our proposed task for 2018/2019. The board assigned priorities. (1) "must do"; (2) "hope to do" and (3) "if the opportunity arises". The list will assist in guiding the activities of the board and its members during this Fiscal year.
4. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be Thursday October 4th in the Mayors conference room.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Anderson
Secretary