

DRAFT**MINUTES OF CARTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD****MEETING HELD May 9th, 2019 at 801 East Elk Ave, Elizabethton, TN 37643****RECEIVED**
5-13-19 @ 11AM
GH**OPENING:** Chairman Ken Gough called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.**ROLL CALL:** Erik Anderson conducted a roll-call. A quorum was present.

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

Guests were introduced: Bill Watson, Back Country Horsemen of East Tennessee**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Minutes of the April 11th, 2019 meeting were provided to members before the meeting. The minutes were approved by common consent.**PRESENTATIONS: NONE****OLD BUSINESS:**

- Green Bridge Landing:** The Board discussed the need to complete Green Bridge Landing. The key challenge at this time is retrieving the materials to complete the Park from Chris Schuettler. It was the sense of the Board to ask the Mayor arrange the retrieval of the materials needed to complete the park. Ken will then work with the Highway Department to complete the project. **Charlie made a motion that the Board authorize Ken to expend up to \$3,000.00 of this FY funds to compete the project.** Mike Warner seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

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

The motion passed unanimously.

- Shooting Park:** Nothing Significant to Report
- Happy Trails Park:** The Back-County Horsemen of East Tennessee (BCHET) will hold a ribbon cutting on June 8th from 11:00 to 1:00. The ceremony will include food and music. Afterwards there will be a short trail ride. There are several items to be completed before the ribbon cutting to include a trash can and picnic table. Ken suggested a press release. Bill and Erik will work up a press release and BCHET will be sending out invitations as soon as details are fleshed out.
- Mountain Biking:** Ken became aware of a grant which was specifically designated for skills and pump tracks. The grant would be ideal for development at Bryant Ridge. Jeff,

Ken and Mike Maims continue to work on an MOU for SORBA and the Hampton Watershed. The City Manager and Mayor should discuss.

5. **Gap Creek Park:** The environmental engineering study is complete and has been submitted. We are in a 30 day waiting period. The Board spent some time pouring over the study charts with Charlie's assistance. Informal feedback from Randall indicates that the preliminary County Budget will include \$50K of matching funds for grants for the next phase of the Gap Creek Park. The April 18th City Budget workshop has Gap Creek Park as the #6 priority for the Elizabethton Parks and Recreation. The next step is for the Mayor to contact the Elizabethton City Manager to check on the status of the draft MOU. The idea of a connector from the Tweetsie Trail to Gap Creek Park was also broached.
6. **Overmountain Victory Trail:** Nothing Significant to Report
7. **Community Tour:** The next trip will be on June 15th at 09:00 from the County Courthouse. The focus will be Fish Springs/Little Milligan/Heaton Creek area to familiarize the board with recent and pending changes in the communities. The potential Shooting property will also be visited.
8. **Happy Valley Park:** The TDOT conditions on deeding the property to the County at no cost are as onerous as those of the lease. One remaining option is for the County to purchase the property out-right at appraised value. Ken will discuss that option and any other potential approaches such as a private act or involving our State elected officials with the Mayor.
9. **Elizabethton Parks and Rec:** Nothing Significant to Report
10. **Birding:** Nothing Significant to Report.
11. **Roan Mountain Community Park:** The Roan Mountain Recreation Foundation provided a written report. The Appalachian Trail days was a success with approximately 54 hikers experiencing Carter County hospitality. Equipment and mowing status were reviewed and a position paper on the need to purchase a commercial mower next FY was provided. The e-mail request for the Carter County Parks and Recreation Board to cover the cost of two dumpsters to support the pending Doe River Clean-up was discussed. **Ken made a motion that the Carter County Parks and Recreation Board approve a reimbursement of up to \$1,000 to the Carter County Solid Waste department for the future cost associated with the Doe River Clean-up.** Randall seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

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

The motion passed unanimously. A letter conveying the approval was signed out for the Solid Waste Department, the Finance Department and the Mayor.

On a related matter Randall made a motion that we send a letter to the Landfill Committee to establish a policy which would support appropriate Parks and Recreation clean-ups at no cost and confirm the long standing practice of permitting the disposal of trash from our operating partners at no cost. Charlie seconded. The proposal passed unanimously and a letter will be provided.

12. **Carter County's Tweetsie Extension:** Nothing Significant to Report
13. **Website:** Nothing Significant to Report
14. **Road Cycling:** Nothing Significant to Report
15. **Pocket Parks:** J.R. updated prospects for a pocket park at the new Dollar General Store in Fish Springs.
16. **Doe River Fishing Trail (DRiFT):** See above
17. **Request to amend private act to allow 12 meetings per year:** No action expected this FY

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Evening on Elk:** The Board discussed the upcoming Evenings on Elk and it was the sense of the Board that there was not a significant role for the Park and Rec Board.
2. **American Whitewater Volunteer of the Month:** Jerry Griffin from our Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts has been named the American Whitewater Volunteer for the month because of his sustained mentorship of paddling in East Tennessee and his more recent work at the landing at Bear Cage Road. **Mike Warren made a motion that we have the County Commission recognize Jerrys contributions.** Randall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Next FY meetings:** Eight meeting were tentatively discussed for the next FY. They are the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 in the Mayors Conference Room unless otherwise stated. Tentative dates: August 8th, September 12th, October 10th, November 14th 2019, and January 9th, February 13th, April 9th, May 14th, 2020 .
4. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be Thursday August 8th at 6:00 PM at the Roan Mountain Community Park.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Anderson
Secretary

To: Landfill Committee

Subject: Policy to support Park and Recreation trash disposal at no cost

We request that the Landfill Committee consider and adopt a policy which would support appropriate Park and Recreation clean up events at no-cost. Specifically we request that if the Park and Recreation Board partners with one or more groups to conduct a clean-up of one of our recreation areas or park assets that the Solid Waste Department provide dumpster/s for free of charge. The dumpsters would be placed on County owned property, and that the cleanup will be for public property which could include a stream or waterway used for recreation.

Additionally we request that you confirm a long standing practice permitting the disposal of trash from the designated county parks or events to be taken to convenience centers or the landfill at no charge to the Parks and Recreation Board or our operator partners. The best example that we have records for is that trash bags from the Roan Mountain Community Park have taken to the Roan Mountain Convenience Center by the Roan Mountain Recreation Foundation (RMRF) and disposed of at no cost to the RMRF since 2011.

In summary it is appropriate for the County to assume the burden of the cost of disposal of trash from public recreation areas collected by our volunteer partners.