

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Buckeye Recreation Center – 9:00 AM

- I. *Call to Order*** – Chairman Mr. Pfohl called to order the regular meeting of the Recreation Advisory committee at 9:00am in the Chamber Room at Town Hall. Present were Chairman Mr. Pfohl, and Advisory Committee Members, Ms. Piquet, Mr. Smoot, Ms. Owen, and Mr. Brooks; Mr. Jelinski, Parks and Recreation Director, Mr. Scott, Town Planner, and Randy Feierabend, Town Manager were also present.
- II. *Approval of Minutes*** – Minutes were approved from the previous meeting.
- III. *Recreation Report*** -

 - A. *October Recreation Report*** – There were a total of 1,489 daily visits to the Recreation Center for the month of October 2009. Forty eight (48) Family/Individual Annual Passes were sold/renewed in October 2009. There were three (3) resident individual passes, forty four (44) resident family passes, zero (0) nonresident individual pass, one (1) personal training pass, and zero (0) tennis ball machine passes sold for the month of October.

During the month of October the Buckeye Recreation Center held various fitness classes and recreation programs. One of the highlights for the month of October was the Halloween Party on Friday, October 30th, 2009. Over 200 people attended the event which included a haunted house, trick or treating at local businesses, games, and a haunted Halloween egg hunt. The Buckeye Recreation Center also hosted the Wooly Worm Fall Ball on Saturday, October 10th, 2009 with close to 100 people in attendance.
 - B. *Outdoor Recreation Report*** – Mr. Jelinski told the committee the sledding hill would be ready by mid November and officially open on Monday, November 16th. Mr. Jelinski also updated the committee on the work that was completed on Falls Trail.
- IV. *Additional Business*** --

 - A. *Preliminary Action Plan*** – Mr. Jelinski presented the preliminary action plan to the Recreation Committee for review. The preliminary action plan included a multipurpose shelter, playground for younger children, access to backside of Buckeye Lake, climbing walls, outdoor kitchen, swimming pool, and solutions for parking.

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- B. Buckeye Lake Fishing Access** – Mr. Jelinski asked the Recreation Committee to look over the below proposal to Town Council.

The Recreation Committee would like Town Council to consider allowing a parking area to be constructed off of Buckeye Creek Road. At present, public fishing access to Buckeye Lake is located off Grassy Gap Creek Road. This access has no designated parking area; fishermen are required to park along the road creating a safety hazard. A vision is to provide access from Buckeye Creek Road, where a fishing parking area can be established, providing safe and easy trail access to the lake.

An easement would have to be obtained from Dr. Ronald Shane. I spoke with Dr. Shane in late September and he said he would grant the easement.

- C. Community Fishing Grant** – Mr. Jelinski asked the Recreation Committee to look over the below proposal to Town Council.

The Recreation Committee would like Town Council to consider allowing the Parks and Recreation Department to apply for a Community Fishing Program grant through the NC Wildlife Fisheries.

Community Fishing Program sites are operated cooperatively by the Commission and local governments. The Commission provides 75% of the operating funds through the Sport Fish Restoration Fund, while the local government funds 25% and provides the fishing site. The program is open to the public, and many sites have regular opening and closing hours. In addition, many Community Fishing Program sites feature a handicap-accessible fishing pier and solar-powered fish feeders to make fishing more enjoyable for all anglers. Program sites are ideal for families seeking enjoyable and economical fishing trips. As of now, the closest Community Fishing Program site to Beech Mountain is in Ashe County.

If the grant is given, the town will have the opportunity to accept it or not, therefore there is no cost unless it is accepted, which may take up to two years.

- V. *Speak Out Session*** – Lighting the entrance to Buckeye Recreation Center was discussed along with the possibility of street lights. A discussion was also had about building maintenance issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Jelinski