

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, December 7, 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 at Buckeye Recreation Center. Present were Chairman Mr. Pfohl, and Advisory Committee Members, Ms. Piquet and Ms. Owen; Mr. Jelinski, Parks and Recreation Director, and Randy Feierabend, Town Manager were also present.

II. Approval of Minutes – Minutes were looked over from the previous meeting.

III. Recreation Report -

A. November Recreation Report – There were a total of 2,303 daily visits to the Recreation Center for the month of November 2009. Thirty eight (38) Family/Individual Annual Passes were sold/renewed in November 2009. There were six (6) resident individual passes, thirty one (31) 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 November.

During the month of November the Buckeye Recreation Center held various fitness classes and recreation programs. One of the highlights for the month of November was the First Annual Ski Night on Friday, November 7th, 2009. Over 200 people attended the event which included presentations from Buckeye Recreation Center staff, Ski Beech Staff, and raffle prizes from local ski vendors. Other big events for the month on November were the Holiday Market and Sweet Treat Sampler.

B. Outdoor Recreation Report – Mr. Jelinski updated the recreation committee on the sledding hill. He stated that the music was up and running and the turnout so far has been good. He also stated that more deceleration mats may be purchased this year.

IV. Additional Business –

A. Buckeye Lake Fishing Access and Community Fishing Grant – Mr. Jelinski stated that Town Council has approved the below proposals. He stated that work on the Buckeye Lake Fishing Access would start in the spring

Buckeye Lake Fishing Access

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.

Community Fishing Program

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.

B. Buckeye Buzz E-Newsletter – Mr. Jelinski stated that the Parks and Recreation staff has introduced a weekly e-newsletter called the Buckeye Buzz. The e-newsletter includes all recreational programs and event offered by the Parks and Recreation Department each week. The e-newsletter is sent out every Monday.

C. Holiday Programs – Mr. Jelinski updated the committee on the holiday programs being offered at Buckeye Recreation Center. A discussion followed about ways to advertise the programs.

V. *Speak Out Session* – none

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Jelinski