

APPROVED

MINUTES OF CARTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**MEETING HELD August 13th, Roan Mountain Community Park, Roan Mountain, TN 37687****OPENING:** Chairman Ken Gough called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM**ROLL CALL:**

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

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Absent	William Birchfield (1)	Present
Erik Anderson (2)	Present	Charles Dykes (3)	Absent	Jeff Smythe (4)	Present
Ken Gough (5)	Present	J.R Campbell (6)	Absent	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Present
Jim Hughes (8)	Present	Bonnie Peters (Eliz Park and Rep)	Absent		

Guests were introduced: Chris Schuettler (Carter County Planning Officer), Mike Hill 2nd District Commissioner, Brad Johnson 3rd District Commissioner, approximately 15 members of the Roan Mountain Recreation Foundation, Mr. Joe Shell – Roan Mountain, Lauren Turbyfill - Cloudland FFA Advisor, Cathy Selbert Happy Valley FFA Advisor

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Previous minutes of the June 18th meeting were provided to members before the meeting. Jim made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes and approve. Charlie seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

None Scheduled

OLD BUSINESS.**1. REPORTS:**

- a. **Tweetsie Donation:** Ken reported that the County Commission had approved the disbursement of \$10,000 from the Parks and Recreation line item to the City of Johnson City to help with the completion of the Tweetsie Trail through Elizabethton. An MOU is undergoing coordination to govern the expenditure of funds.
- b. **Elizabethton P&R Liaison:** No report
- c. **Greenhouse** – JR was absent so no report. The FFA advisors from Cloudland and Happy Valley were present. They stated that their greenhouses produce annual varieties more than perennials but have contacts that could help with perennials. They provided contact information which will be provided to JR.
- d. **Community Survey.** Charlie provided a verbal and written report on his efforts with the City to develop a survey for Parks and Recreation in Carter County. The cost of the survey would be \$1,200 to cover postage. Charlie made a motion that we expend \$1,200 and each of us commit to accomplishing the survey. Jeff Smythe seconded.

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Absent	William Birchfield (1)	Yes
Erik Anderson (2)	Yes	Charles Dykes (3)	Absent	Jeff Smythe (4)	Yes
Ken Gough (5)	Yes	J.R Campbell (6)	Absent	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Yes
Jim Hughes (8)	Yes	Bonnie Peters (Eliz Park and Rep)	Absent		

The request to expend \$1,200 for the Community survey was approved unanimously.

- e. **Community Tour** – William Birchfield gave a detailed review of the places visited during the Community Tour organized by JR. He identified several areas that may warrant further investigation as opportunities for Pocket Parks. William was asked to get with the Buladean Community Center and investigate it as a possible project and report to us in September
- f. **Birding**- A draft MOU was provided to in the read-ahead package to Board Members. The MOU does not commit either party to expenditure of funds. The draft MOU was approved by common consent subject to review and approval by the County Attorney
- g. **Southern Off Road Bicycling Association MOU** - A draft MOU was also provided to in the read-ahead package to Board Members. The MOU does not commit either party to expenditure of funds. The draft MOU was approved by common consent subject to review and approval by the County Attorney
- h. **Tweetsie Trail South extension:** Chris Schuettler briefed the Board on the southern extension to the Tweetsie Trail. This extension would run from Bear Cage Road south through Whitehead Flats cross US HWY 19E to Crabtree and would end at the Roan Mountain Community Park. The first step would be the emplacement of signage designating the trail on existing TDOT bicycle routes. He showed the Board the proposed trail on map and highlighted locations that might be suitable for later emplacement of parking and Trail Kiosks. The current estimated cost of Trail signs would be less than \$3,000. Ken, Chris, and Mike Hill will plan to meet with Roads Supt Coulbaugh to review the effort. Ken and Chis will make a presentation to the Highway Committee and “Tweetsie Trail Task Force in their September meetings. Chris will take the feedback from the Board and the September meetings and provide an update funding needed. That required funding will be finalized and voted on in the October meeting.
- i. **Website Revisions:** - Ken reported on his and the Mayor’s efforts to update the County Website. The cost and speed at which updates would take place on the County Web-site did not meet the needs of our Board. Ken provided an estimate from the Times Digital Group which would establish a specific Carter County Parks and Recreation Board web-site for \$2,100 and support the web site for one year for \$300. Jeff Smythe made a motion that the Board accept the proposal and allocate \$2,400 for hosting in the coming year. Erik seconded the motion. During the discussion of the motion points were made for both the need to move out quickly and the need to make sure we had sufficient projects to populate the web-site.

Leon Humphrey (Mayor)	Absent	Randall Jenkins (Commission Liaison)	Absent	William Birchfield (1)	No
Erik Anderson (2)	Yes	Charles Dykes (3)	Absent	Jeff Smythe (4)	Yes
Ken Gough (5)	Yes	J.R Campbell (6)	Absent	Charlie Mattioli (7)	Yes
Jim Hughes (8)	No	Bonnie Peters (Eliz Park and Rep)	Absent		

The motion passed by a majority of the Board members present. The vote was 4 yes and 2 no.

j. Roan Mountain Community Park

- i. Erik provided a monthly report to the Parks and Recreation Board. Some of the equipment was in need of repair. All equipment operating. Park being maintained. Farmers Market:
- ii. The Farmers Market continues to operate smoothly although the numbers of vendors and crowds have diminished as the summer has progressed.
- iii. A concerned citizen spoke to the Board on his concerns with some activities taking place in the upper part of the park. He provided a written report also. It was the sense of the Board that a letter should be sent to the Sheriff's office asking for their advice, assistance and a plan to better control hooliganism in this part of the Roan Mountain Community Park.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Tweetsie Trail Treasure Trip and Grand Opening:** Ken provided a handout on the opening of the Tweetsie Trail Extension through Elizabethton. The ribbon cutting will be on Fridays Sep 4th at 10:00 AM. The celebration will start on Saturday the 5th at 08:00. The Parks and Recreation Board plans to take advantage of this opportunity to conduct some surveys.
2. **ROAN MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT NEEDS:** Erik provided a background paper on the mowing equipment inventory and status of the equipment. His assessment was that existing equipment could be repaired and was sufficient for the remainder of this year's mowing season. Equipment need will be revisited before the Spring mowing season starts
3. **NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will September 3rd at 7:00 PM in the County Courthouse

ADJOURNMENT:

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9:08 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Anderson
Secretary