

## ROC Meeting Minutes: February 2017

**In Attendance:** Jerry Stensland, Willie Lowe, Dana Bradley, Hallie Zeedik, Ashley Lowery, Zach Byers, Bruce Rome, Ed and Kay Dittmer, Bill Parke, Robin Worcester, Bruce Byers, Steve Gilbert, Mary Daily, Fred Matthews, Burwell Byers, Janice McFarland

- The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm
- **ROC General:**
  - Jerry Stensland announced that the new ROC website is up and running. He pulled the new website up on a projector and showed meeting attendees various pages and content. This new website is more user-friendly and will be an asset to the organization.
  - Hallie Zeedik went over a few upcoming outings. There is Buffalo Creek Park work day on March 14<sup>th</sup> at 11 am, a group hike to Roan Mountain on March 26<sup>th</sup>, and a group river float on the Broad River planned for April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **Outdoor Programs Director – Projects Update:**
  - Dana Bradley went over details of the Couch to 5K program she is leading. The program will run from February 27<sup>th</sup> to May 17<sup>th</sup>. There are 56 people signed up so far and more being added each day. Participants that complete the program will receive \$15 off of entry to the Leader of the Pack 5K on May 20<sup>th</sup>. She is planning a second Couch to 5K program for the summer and the dates will be announced soon.
  - Dana stated that she has recently applied for a grant to help purchase a passenger van for the organization. She is currently working on a 2<sup>nd</sup> grant to help fund the remaining balance of the van and other costs associated with our group outings. We should know if we received funding from the 1<sup>st</sup> grant by the end of April.
  - A big part of Dana's new position is outreach to local schools. She has been shadowing the Muddy Sneakers instructors during their outings at Rutherford County schools in the hopes that she will become a part-time lead instructor with the organization when the new school year begins as part of her new position with ROC.
- **Trail Projects:**
  - Rail Trail: Plans are moving forward for the new section of the Rail Trail in Forest City. The new, 5-mile section will run from Spindale to Forest Hunt Elementary.
  - Buffalo Creek Park/Summits Trail: The damaged trail section at Buffalo Creek Park has been repaired by Trail Dynamics and the entire trail is back open. A work day is scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup> and volunteers will spread leaves in various locations to help prevent erosion. The Eagle Rock Trail is nearly complete with less than a mile to go. This new trail is closed to the public until work is completed.
  - Rutherfordton Trails: Crews have started construction on Phase II of the Purple Martin Trail. This new section will add close to a mile to this beautiful trail and could be completed as early as May.

- ICC Trails: New trail markers and trail maps will be installed soon. Hallie Zeedik and a crew of volunteers counted the number of new trail markers needed and will begin installation as soon as the new items arrive. The Red Trail will be eliminated due to construction of a new building on campus that will cut off the trail.
- Dittmer-Watts Nature Trails: New signage will be installed soon. This signage will be more detailed in hopes of making the trails easier to navigate.
- **Race Series**:
  - The Bearfoot 5K is coming up on March 18<sup>th</sup>. Register by April 1<sup>st</sup> to ensure you get a long-sleeve hoodie. Those that register after April 1<sup>st</sup> will receive a t-shirt.