



ROC Meeting Minutes: January 2019

In Attendance: Willie Lowe, Dana Bradley, Robin Schultze, Steve Collins, Bruce Byers, Kay Dittmer, Ed Dittmer, Bruce McKinney, Fred Matthews, Lisa Rome, Bruce Rome, Ray Gaj, Jody Fletcher, Penny Allen, Neil Fruhwirth, Meg Nelson, Randy Allen, Zack Byers, Toni Byers, Matt Rees, Sarah Maddry

- The meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm.

- **ROC Past Event Recap:**
 - 12/16: ROC Bearwallow Hike
 - 12/29: ROC Walk with Brother Wolf
 - 1/12: ROC Walk with Brother Wolf

- **Upcoming Events:**
 - ROC Trombatore Trail Hike: **January 19th at 12 pm (Meet at 11 am at the annex to carpool) – likely to be re-scheduled for February 17th**
 - ROC Walk With Brother Wolf: **February 4th at 10 am**

- **Outdoor Programs Director – Projects Update:**
 - Flyers were handed out for the walking club.
 - The Continuing Education Hiking 101 Course: The course will be offered on April 1st – May 1st. It will occur on Monday and Wednesdays at 10 am through Isothermal Community College. It's \$60 to take the course and will count as 26 hours of continuing education.
 - Lowe's and Walmart grants.
 - Lowe's annual window for grants has closed, but the fiscal year will begin in February and Dana will re-apply.
 - Walmart granted ROC a \$25 gift card for tools; Dana is applying to corporate Walmart grants.
 - ROC might have a connection at Harbor Freight (and will be asking for tool donations).
 - Keeping RC Beautiful: county-wide cleanup initiative. It was formerly called Pick it Up ROCO last year, and the name has changed. It will take place from April 4th to April 7th. Need ROC teams to participate.
 - Town of Lake Lure forming new department comprised of both Parks and Recreation and Lake Operations. They are hiring a new Parks and Recreation coordinator; Dean Givens will serve as the director.

- **Trail Projects:**
 - Rail Trail: Dave Odom said the orange fencing will likely be removed this week. However, it is unknown when the official opening date will be. RHI Legacy donated more

funds (on top of their already generous donation) to pay for the 2 bridge crossings along the trail. The benches that were removed will be replaced. ROC would like to recruit trail bosses for each mile section.

- Broad River: No updates on the Broad River, however there was talk of needing a River Stewards meeting in the near future.
- Buffalo Creek Park/Weedpatch Mountain: After the immense snowfall in December, there have been four workdays in order to get BCP back in working shape. The trail is currently open again and should be clear. Weedpatch should also be clear.
- Young's Mountain: Trail design should be completed by the end of February for the 2-mile trail to the upper cliffs/almost summit of Youngs Mountain. Construction will begin mid-spring to early summer of 2019. Hoping to be completed by end of year.
- Purple Martin Trail: There is now funding in place to fund the next phase of the Purple Martin Greenway. This phase should be installed by the end of 2019.
- Dittmer-Watts: The Dogwood Trail is closed, 300 feet is not accessible due to a massive tree fall. A workday is to be scheduled soon.
- ICC Trails: There has been a slight re-routing of the Blue Trail near the bamboo in order to accommodate a massive treefall in December. The quarter of a mile section that went through a pine grove now goes through the bamboo patch.
- Rumbling Bald: The parking lot is in the process/planning of being expanded. The Rumble (bouldering event) will be held in the second week of February.
- **Race Series**:
 - The Box Creek Wilderness 10K will start off the 2019 Race Series on February 23rd.
 - The Race Series Booklet was created and features pictures and race information. There were enough sponsors that printing did not cost ROC anything to print.
 - The booklet is part of a strategy to expand the Race Series outside of Rutherford County.