



## Keep Carter County Beautiful (KCCB) Board Meeting Minutes

Chamber Conference Room, 615 W. Elk Avenue, Elizabethton & Zoom

September 29, 2022, at Noon

**Board Members Present:** Don Hlavaty, Ed Basconi, Ross Garland, Lisa Vezzosi, Ed Jordan, Simon Maddock, Melinda Maddock

**Board Members Absent:** Mike Mains, Mike Simerly,

**Guests Present:** Mary Ellen Hlavaty

**Call to Order:** Don Hlavaty opened the meeting at 12:08pm. A quorum was present.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Board approved the agenda.

**Prayer:** Ed Jordan gave the prayer.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Ross Garland led the pledge.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to **approve the minutes from July 28, 2022**, meeting was made by Ed Basconi, seconded by Lisa Vezzosi. Discussion included to amend the minutes in regard to the reason Daniel French chose not to become a board member. The decision was to delete the specific reason and simply state he declined at this time. With this change, the **Board approved**.

**Public Comments:** No comments were made.

### **Next Board Meeting:**

The next Board meeting will be on Thursday, October 27, 2022, at noon in the Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 615 West Elk Avenue, Elizabethton, and available by Zoom.

### **KCCB Treasurer Report:** Lisa Vezzosi for Mike Simerly

- The bank statement closed 8/31/2022 with a balance of \$9,304.86. This included the expense of \$12.07 for the Mail Chimp account automatically taken from the debit card. Other expenses were \$170.00 for printing services of a 2023 calendar to be distributed at Covered Bridge Days Festival.
- We are also awaiting invoice for \$250.00 that represents our portion of the Trout Trash Trap.
- It was reported that Carter County allocation of \$5,000.00 was received but deposited after the Labor Day weekend, so it will be reflected in next month's statement.

### **Affiliate Index Reporting** Don Hlavaty

- Don reported that the annual reporting was completed and submitted to *Keep America Beautiful*.
- Don talked about the results as being no or little improvement over last year.
- Don also discussed contacting Isaac at *Keep America Beautiful* for an invoice of dues payment so it could be submitted to Carter County for payment. However, the invoice has not been received yet. Ed Jordan asked Don to call the *Keep America Beautiful* president to expedite.

**Proposal for Signage at Buffalo Creek Trash Trout Trap:** Don Hlavaty

- Discussion about the new signage needed to be placed away from the river edge.
- A sign proposal was made by Lisa. She indicated it was a working draft. The only change to add to the proposal, was to include the logos of the contributing members. It will be included for review and a vote at the October meeting.

**Status of Trash Cans Donation to Elizabethton Parks & Recreation:** Mike Mains

- Mike was absent at today's meeting, so the progress of the order will be deferred until next meeting.

**Wayfinding Signage Placement: Ross Garland**

- Ross Garland spoke of the project for wayfinding signs. He reported Tom Nizioł replaced Eric Anderson from Roan Mountain Road Commission, after Eric's death. Ross indicated that the Roan Mountain Road Commission had already placed a memorial sign for Eric Anderson. With the discussion between Ross and Tom, it was determined a target date for installation of signage at Roan Mountain should be October 29<sup>th</sup>. Tom has an auger to dig the holes. Mary Ellen suggested KCCB sponsor a newspaper article about the signage in Eric's honor and possibly recruit more participation to help installation on Roan Mountain's parkway.
- Ross says he will coordinate Elizabethton City Park signage with Mike Mains.
- Ross indicated he reached out to Roger Colbert about starting installation on the highway roadway signs. His crew should start once mowing season is finished. The supplies needed for installation of the roadway signage is their responsibility. Ross indicated he would go out with Willie Campbell to number the signs and locations for installation.
- Ed Basconi suggested creating a spreadsheet of the signs and locations. Ross indicated that he had already started it and would distribute to everyone.

**Covered Bridge Days Festival:** Don Hlavaty

- Don reported that he, Mary Ellen, Lisa, and Ed Basconi covered the booth during the festival weekend. KCCB recycle bins were placed within the downtown area and park. Litter pickup was also done throughout the weekend.
- The *Keep Tennessee Beautiful* folks did not replenish our giveaways supply. We had brochures, stickers, 2023 calendars, and the remaining 100 car bags to distribute. We got a lot of positive feedback from the public and some reported areas to investigate for clean-up.

**Recycle Centers:** Don Hlavaty

- Don made a suggestion that Carter County provide a regular trash dumpster at each of the County Recycle Centers rather than the public dumping along the roadways & rivers. Ed Jordan said we should propose it to the County Commission at their next meeting October 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Ross indicated that Bennie Lyons has no drivers employed currently to move dumpsters anywhere. Their committee was going to install cameras in these recycle center areas. Discussion concluded that KCCB should go to the Landfill Committee Meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and obtain more information on the hiring of new drivers and the camera project.

- Simon asked if we should get input from Jonesborough and Johnson City commissions that provide curbside pick up of recycles with taxpayer dollars. Don indicated he would contact them for their process.
- Melinda suggested KCCB go the Carter County Landfill Committee meeting with a full plan proposal. She volunteered to help with this plan.
- Don also would like to mention the litter fines in the nation and how Tennessee is behind. He indicated that he had spoke to Mayor Patty Woodby about raising funds. She responded that it is a state issue, not a county issue. Don thought the fines may differ based on littering rather than dumping. Don indicated that he will investigate further and contact the Mayor again.
- Don read a citizen comment submitted to KCCB regarding littering and dumping sites within the county. He told the Board that several complaints had been submitted to KCCB to investigate for clean up projects. He investigated five (5) sites this month and indicated KCCB could not address due to the terrain and volume. He will send out a list of them.
- Don indicated his conversation with the new sheriff was that Sheriff Fraley was going to focus on covered load violations on roadways and not dumping.
- Melinda asked about our ability to get up the tires at Belvins Road. Don said the remaining tires are hard to remove. We would need information on a towing service. The terrain is too steep along the river for most resources. Melinda indicated she would work on the Blevins Road issues and report back to the group.
- Ed Basconi suggested we focus on one site at a time, even if some are delayed until next year. He said KCCB has stated goals because we focus too much on dumping. We need to be more structured and balanced with our projects. We need to change the mindset. We need more feel good projects.
- Don indicated we need to focus on prevention rather than just clean up. We losing volunteers for litter clean ups

#### **Upcoming Events: All**

- Our next project is

#### **New Business: All**

- It was reported to us prior to the meeting that Wayne Dunlap, a KCCB volunteer, had died. His neighbor asked if KCCB could provide a memorial. Simon suggested a sign on a roadway or along our tree planting area.
- Don asked Ed Basconi if he wanted to attend the annual seed swap event in January. If he were going, we could add a KCCB booth at the event. Ed indicated he would like to go and work a booth, so Don will submit the booth request.

#### **Adjournment:**

- A motion was made to adjourn by Ross Garland, seconded by Simon Maddock, and **board approved**. The meeting was adjourned at 1:14pm.

**Submitted by:** Lisa Vezzosi, Secretary.