



A Legacy for Better Lives

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TCF GRANT PUSHES KAYAK PROJECT OVER THE TOP

The much-anticipated Clear Creek Kayak Launch will move to completion thanks to a recent grant of \$3,000 from the Tellico Community Foundation (TCF), an affiliate fund of East Tennessee Foundation.

The TCF grant augments the contributions made by the Timeless Tellico Foundation (TTF), Tellico Reservoir Development Agency (TRDA) and numerous Tellico Village kayakers and area residents who have supported this project.

“This past spring, TCF was fortunate to sell the property it owned opposite the Food Lion,” said Joe Beyel, TCF chair. “When Tom Schemberger, Simon Bradbury and the TTF approached us about getting involved, our Advisory Board jumped at the opportunity to respond.”

Schemberger, a Tellico Villager and avid kayaker, conceived the project in

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conjunction with Simon Bradbury, Tellico Village Property Owner Association, Recreation Department Director. Working together, these two were instrumental in enlisting TTF, TRDA and, subsequently, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). Loudon County and the Tennessee RiverLine were also involved in the project.

Beyel continued, “This project fits perfectly under TCF’s community enrichment focus area and the proposed launch will benefit Tellico Villagers plus the residents of Loudon and Monroe counties.”

The total budget for the initiative is \$16,500. Schemberger and the Soggy Bottoms Kayak Club raised \$6,000 from kayakers and the community. The Timeless Tellico Foundation will contribute \$5,000 and TRDA designated \$2,500 in support of the project. The TCF’s \$3,000 grant ensures the launch will be completed.

A significant portion of the funding from the Timeless Tellico Foundation came from donations made to the organization in memory of past Soggy Bottoms president, Dave Noble. TTF president, Walt Cook commented, “Dave was an enthusiastic supporter of TTF and loved kayaking. We are thrilled to direct these funds to this worthwhile endeavor in his honor.”

Much of the developmental work for the launch is already completed at the Clear Creek site by the Kahite Chain Gang, the Village’s volunteer trail building crew. Brian Hall of TRDA is working with the TVA to obtain the final required permitting which should be issued in the coming weeks.

In conclusion, Beyel said, “The TCF is proud to be part of this diverse group that came together to make this launch possible. TCF is looking for a variety of opportunities that will benefit the Village and our home counties of Loudon and Monroe.”

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