

**Lake Roland Nature Council
Board Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2016 at 6:30 PM
Jefferson Building, Room 104
105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Towson, MD**

Welcome and Introductions: Larry Zeafla called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM. Larry welcomed members and guests to the meeting and asked that everyone introduce themselves.

March Meeting Minutes: The March 16, 2016 Board Meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jeffrey Budnitz reported the following:

- Cash position: \$105,035.08
 - General funds: \$60,757.06
 - Reserved funds: \$44,278.02 (for Education Building)
- Hard Assets: \$178,596.98
- Total Assets: \$283,632.06
- Baltimore Bird Club is in the process of making a donation of \$4,000.00 for the Education Building

The Maryland Recreation and Parks Association ("MRPA"): Larry Zeafla recognized Jeffrey Budnitz for the award he received at the MRPA conference in Ocean City, Maryland on April 14, 2016. Shannon Davis explained that the award is for the MRPA Volunteer of the Year.

Rec & Parks Staff Report: Ranger Shannon Davis reported the following:

- Public Earth Day is this week
- Dwight Johnson will be leading a wild flower walk this Sunday
- Working on enlarging the meadow above the parking area
- All Master Naturalists have picked projects
- Towson University was out at its big event working on the serpentine and 381 pounds of material was removed

Design Framework Committee (Environmental & Master Plan): Elise Butler reported that a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") with the Guilford Garden Club ("GGC") has been put together. Elise introduced Kimberly Warren and Kay McConnell from the GGC and Kay stated that she has with her two signed copies of the MOU. Elise stated that there will be a talk by one of the consultants, Jenna Webster, to present an example of a design framework. Elise thanked Kay and Kimberly for their help and support on the MOU and Design Framework.

Paw Point Committee: Beth Hoker reported:

- 698 tags have been issued since November 1, 2015

- Dogs & Donuts Social will be held in the pavilion next Sunday
- Jeffrey and Mark worked on the water source and fountain at the beginning of April
- Jonathan Green opened the water area access on Saturday.
- Ten lifetime Paw Point membership terminations were sent out

Trails Committee: Jeffrey Budnitz reported the following:

- The trail work is going great
- Baltimore County has approved in its budget the purchase of a dump truck and equipment trailer for use at several parks including Lake Roland

Membership Committee: Jeffrey Budnitz stated that there is nothing to report at this time.

Residents Committee: Shannon Davis reported that there is a trail to Copper Hill Road that will be blocked to prevent access.

Outreach Committee: Nancy Horst reported that:

- The plant sale is April 30th, 2016
- Mailings have been going out
- There was an article on LR Park Ranger Jeff Ruark in the RRLRAIA Newsletter

Old Business:

Education Center: Elise Butler reported that Jeffrey Budnitz has been going to regular project update meetings for the education building at the county. Elise said she joined him at the last meeting where they reviewed the finishes (colors). Elise said all of the finishes are to be natural colors. Elise also said she has received some donations and Jeffrey said the new project sign is up and is showing the fundraising progress. Elise said that the construction progress is going well.

Nancy Horst asked about the grand opening for the Education Building and Jeffrey said the county has it on hold until the end of June or July. Jeffrey explained that some finish changes have impacted the delivery date of the building.

Ultimate Water Sports: Jeffrey Budnitz reported that the water sports program has been put on hold for a year. The water quality question was raised and we have instituted a regular water testing program.

Music Festival: Jeffrey Budnitz reported that the plan to host a music festival has been pushed back until next year. We will continue our due diligence but there were concerns raised about the logistics of bringing trailers into the park.

Native Plant Sale: Elise Butler reported that this year's native plant sale will be bigger and better than last year. Kay McConnell spoke about the day-before

volunteers loading the cars with plant material. Four shifts of volunteers are needed on the day of the sale with the final shift taking down the tables and returning the plant material to Kay's house.

New Business:

Parking Lot Sinkhole: Jeffrey Budnitz reported that the sinkhole in the main parking lot area has been permanently repaired. The drain's stonework arch and keystone have been rebuilt.

Nature Quest Festival: Larry Zeafla reported that the Nature Quest Festival will not take place at Lake Roland this year but instead will be held at Oregon Ridge Park. The reason for the change is the construction activity going on at Lake Roland.

President Larry Zeafla adjourned the meeting at 7:24 PM.

In attendance:

Peter Bieneman
Jeffrey Budnitz
Elise Butler
Steve Christianson
Kurt Davis
Shannon Davis
Jim Flannery
Beth Hoker
Nancy Horst
Dwight Johnson
Bill Jones
Roger McMacken
Lydia Redding
Jeff Rodman
Larry Zeafla
Marc Klein
Kimberly Warren
Kay McConnell

Minutes prepared by
Jim Flannery