

**Lake Roland Nature Council  
Board Meeting Minutes  
January 20, 2016 at 6:30 P.M.  
The home of Nancy & Skip Horst  
7819 Ellenham Ave.  
Ruxton, MD 21204**

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**Welcome and Introductions:** Larry Zeafla called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM and welcomed members and guests to the meeting. The meeting was hosted by Nancy and Skip Horst at their home on Ellenham Road.

**November Meeting Minutes:** The November 18, 2015 Board Meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

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

- Education Building construction is underway
- Summer Camp information has been sent out
- Interviewed two Master Naturalists

**Environmental & Master Plan Committees:** Dwight Johnson gave an overview of the expert proposals and the work they are to perform. Dwight also stated that they are working on the Chinese silvergrass in the Serpentine.

**Trails Committee:** Larry Zeafla explained that the Trails Committee does trail maintenance and utilizes the new equipment and vehicles such as the dump loader. Larry also stated that Scouts are working on several trail projects.

**Membership Committee:** Larry Zeafla stated that we need to get a new membership committee together.

**Residents Committee:** Rick North reported that there is only one real issue for the Residents Committee at this time. It is the office trailers parked on the Home and Hospital Property.

**Outreach Committee:** Nancy Horst reported she continues to write articles for the community newsletters and also leads walks through the park. Nancy suggested that there be a volunteer committee in addition to a membership committee.

Larry Zeafla stated that he would like to get new board members involved on a committee and generate new energy for the Nature Council.

**Background Checks:** Larry Zeafla gave an update on the background check requirements and stated that without a background check and signed volunteer form, you cannot volunteer. Rick North asked for clarity on the background checks and

expressed security concerns about providing social security numbers. Rick asked if this is an annual requirement and Larry said that is the case. Rick said he may be losing a member of the Residents Committee as a result.

**Education Building:** Larry Zeafla said we need to raise money for the Education Building and asks if anyone has contacts at foundations who they can contact for a contribution. Rob Horst requested a breakdown of the money we need to raise for the Education Building at our next board meeting.

Rob Horst discussed how we can have a music festival at the park in the fall to raise money. He compared it to the Charm City Folk Blue Grass Festival and said he will have more of an update at the next board meeting.

President Larry Zeafla adjourned the meeting at 7:15 PM.

In attendance: Kurt Davis, Shannon Davis, Jim Flannery, Beth Hoker, Nancy Horst, Rob Horst, Dwight Johnson, Susan King-Byrne, Peter Lev, Rick North, Merritt Pridgeon, Lydia Redding and Larry Zeafla.

Minutes prepared by  
Jim Flannery