

**Lake Roland Nature Council
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2019**

Attendees: Kurt Davis, Jeffrey Budnitz, Peter Lev, Ranger Jonathan Wood

President Kurt Davis opened the meeting at 5:35 pm.

Treasurers' Report: Jeffrey Budnitz gave a verbal report.

Recreation and Parks Staff Report: Ranger Jonathan Wood gave the following report:
The Bird Extravaganza was successful, with 160 people on the first day and 180 people on the second. Peter said most attendees were happy, but two experienced birders complained about a dearth of species.

Jonathan said we need to replace one of the double grills near the pavilions. Cost is about \$400, not including installation. EC approved purchase.

Staffing in the park is a problem. There are vacancies, part-time people moving to go to school, one staff member injured. Jonathan said it would help if staff started most days at 9:00 am, with occasional spot-checks of the park before that. The County would have to give permission. Jonathan added that he may need to cut back on programming unless more staff is available. For some programs, volunteers could help a lot.

The group discussed getting more volunteers involved. It's a good idea to ask for volunteers to do specific things, instead of making a general call for an event.

Paw Point Letter:

Kurt is working on a letter inviting Paw Point members to join LRNC.

Environmental Issues:

Elise expects a contract from Roger Latham that will cover Phase 1 of the Serpentine Restoration Plan. (Update: Roger was out of town; he returned on 3/12. He promises to get the contract to us.)

Kurt wants to speak to Larry Weaner and Associates about next steps in the Nature Center Design Plan. He also intends to call a meeting of the LRNC and GGC leadership to discuss the Nature Center Design Plan. (Update: The LRNC-GGC meeting is scheduled for March 25, 5:15 pm at the Nature Center).

Peter asked for permission to spend up to \$1,000 so that Charlie Davis can work with Janet Ebert, Roger Latham's long-time botanist, on the Serpentine plant inventory this spring and summer. The EC approved. (Update: Peter spoke with Charlie by phone, and Charlie agreed to work with Janet on the inventory. This will give us a local person who understands Roger and Janet's protocol for plant surveys. The funding should cover two half days for Charlie plus some followup time.)

Peter also asked for up to \$1,000 for doing an insect study—part of Roger’s plan—this summer. Peter explained that even for an internship one gets more interest and better applicants if some money is available. EC approved.

Trails Report: Jeffrey said that ground conditions in the Serpentine as of early March are not good for mowing or clearing new areas. Peter said that if we mow this year, it should be in March.

Minutes taken by Peter Lev.