

Lake Roland Nature Council
Board Meeting Minutes
Feb. 19, 2020 at 6:30 PM
Lake Roland Nature Center

Board Members Present: Kurt Davis, Christine Corbitt, Howdy Knipp, Jeff Budnitz, Elise Butler, Jim Flannery, Jonathon Wood, Rick North, Dwight Johnson, Carlton Sexton

Other Attendees: Corey Johns – Baltimore County Board of Recs and Parks, Kris Mervine – Regional Coordinator Board of Recs and Parks Kay McConnell, Kimberly Warren

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of December 2019 Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Current Assets Checking/Savings	\$70,202.45
Total Current Assets	\$70,202.45
Fixed Assets	\$417,687.42
TOTAL ASSETS	\$487,889.87
Current Liabilities	\$149,484.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$149,484.00
Equity	\$338,405.87
TOTAL LIAB. & EQUITY	\$487,889.87

Staff Report:

Ranger Jonathan Wood reports that:

Taste of Mt. Washington requested an out-reach donation for their silent auction benefiting The Mt. Washington School. LRNC donated tickets for a family of 4 for the Mud Day event.

Bikes & Beers requested use of the boating pier on Lakeside Drive for the June 20th ride. They will be giving the park a \$300 donation. They will provide their own porta-potty.

The Summer Calendar is being finished – special theme based nature walks every Saturday.

Maple Sugaring – 2/29/2020 and 3/1/2020 – 2pm-4pm. The rangers need volunteers for this.

The Great Backyard Bird Count was a success. On Saturday, assisted by Peter Lev, 29 species were identified – 30 species identified on Sunday.

There is a hawk nest on the boardwalk. Peter Lev will be monitoring.

Summer Camp registration starts 2/24/2020.

Committee Reports: Nature Center Landscape Design –

Elise Butler provided a comprehensive presentation of the new Phase II proposal regarding the Nature Center Landscape Design submitted the previous week. There were handouts of both the original and the new Phase II for board members to take and review. Kurt Davis asked everyone to review the documents and be prepared for discussion/comments at the March board meeting.

Serpentine Restoration Plan:

Elise let us know that the GGC reporting deadline on grants is March 1st. We have received an invoice from Roger Latham for his work to date. The foundational work needed for Roger to come in and do onsite work has vbeen finished. We need to get a schedule from him for moving forward.

Peter Lev has put together a summary of Jim Young’s moth study and it is available on the website.

Other academic institutions are applying for grant funding to study pollinators in the Serpentine Barrens.

Weed Warriors: see Howdy’s report below

Paw Point Committee:

550 members – A couple incidents of aggressive dogs have been reported and addressed by the committee.

Trails Committee:

Jeffrey turned it over to Howdy for a Weed Warriors report - Howdy Knipp spoke of the work that weed warriors has done on clearing invasives on the yellow and green trails. They have also been cutting down multiflora and privet along the boardwalk in hopes of planting trees this spring. He also volunteered to help place the final survey markers in the wetlands for the Landscape Design.

Jeffrey Budnitz – The canoe container is in place above the boating pier and is ready for build out. Jeffrey, Woody, Gero and Ranger Jon have templated the interior for

fabrication and installation. Needed supplies have been ordered. The container will hold 6-7 canoes.

Trail dump buggy is being rebuilt by Jeffrey.

80 tons of stone being delivered for the weekend of the 11th to help restore the Meadowood Trail.

Rick North wanted to know about all of the work being done by the firehouse on Falls Road. Jeffrey pointed out that is all private property and not in our jurisdiction.

The weather station will be installed on 2/20/2020 and updated to the board next meeting.

Recreation Committee:

Gero was unavailable so Kurt gave the report:

Canoe outing dates have been established and the Rec Committee will support the Rangers with these outings;

The next Donut Run is on the calendar for April 4. We will coordinate with the Rangers and with Merritt in terms of getting this organized and getting a route established, volunteers enlisted, etc.

Gero will work with Rangers to schedule water based lake clean ups once air and water temperatures permit - likely early May.

With Ranger Jon's permission, Gero has undertaken a number of drone flights, capturing still images as well as video. Some of the stills can be seen on the NC's Flickr account. Video will be forthcoming once he has captured more of the park and we will have a series of videos, including one with narrative to be played in loop for visitors at the Nature Center.

Membership Committee:

151 members

Residents Committee:

No report

Old business:

Fund raising update: We plan on sending \$30000.00 to the county this month for a Nature Center payment. Ongoing funding raising is continuing. We would like to have the building paid off by the end of 2020.

Weather Station Update: See above from Jeffrey.

New business:

The motion was put forth to the board for discussion and a vote on a proposed bylaws change. PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGE: Current LRNC Bylaws say that all Committee Chairs and Committee members are appointed by the President and approved by the Board. This is a cumbersome process that we have never followed.

Here is the exact current language:

The President shall appoint persons to chair and serve on those committees, including persons who are not Directors of the Corporation. All such appointments must be approved by the Board either prior to the appointment or be ratified at the next Board meeting.

Here is the proposed new language:

The President shall appoint persons to chair LRNC Committees. All such appointments must be approved by the Board either prior to the appointment or be ratified at the next Board meeting.

The vote was unanimous for approval of the amendment.

Chris Mervine announced that a new director has been nominated for Recs and Parks – her name is Rosalyn Johnson. She will be voted on next week.

Corey Johnson had two new business comments:

- 1) March 27,2020 is the slated rollout for the new background/ finger printing program. Dates and places will be forthcoming and it will be mandatory for all county counters. All volunteers will receive ID badges.
- 2) The best way for councils to receive Rec and Parks funding to for consitutents to show up at townhall meeting. Almost all requests, in the past, have been approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm.