

Lake Roland Nature Council
Executive Committee Meeting
March 3, 2021 at 6:00 PM
Meeting held via Zoom

Those present, via Zoom: Kurt Davis, Jeffrey Budnitz, Peter Lev, Gero Verheyen, Beth Hoker, Ranger Jonathan Wood

Treasurer's Report:

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings **68,993.28**

Total Current Assets **68,993.28**

Fixed Assets **436,954.94**

TOTAL ASSETS **505,948.22**

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities **79,484.00**

Total Current Liabilities **79,484.00**

Total Liabilities **79,484.00**

Equity **426,464.22**

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY **505,948.22**

Staff Report: A lot of people showed up for Maple Sugaring on Saturday 2/27 and Sunday 2/28 despite very rainy weather. We had 50 people on Saturday, 47 on Sunday. Upcoming programs are a Timberdoodle night hike and a program about scat. Also a Nature Quest Hopalong—print out a copy of Parker the Frog, take a picture of him in the park, and you are eligible for a prize. There's been a big uptick in attendance on warm days.

Jonathan talked about adding an infrared counter that would help us track attendance in the park. Problem to be solved—there is more than one entrance.

Jonathan said that trails have gotten much wider because people wanted to maintain 6 feet distance. Gero said people were good about masks, but they were walking on trail edges to avoid mud. Gero can start making wooden cookies to make muddy trails more walkable.

We have a problem with graffiti in and around the cave on the Pink Trail. Also, on some trees.

John Lehman and Kyle will begin working on a large enclosure for the terrapin. Kurt and Jonathan discussed whether it should be on wheels.

If we go ahead with Summer Camp, registration will be April 19, for members; April 26, for non-members. Here are some possible expenses for summer camp: 1. 2 non-touch thermometers; 2. CPR training for staff; 3. lifeguard for canoe trips; 4. craft bags for individual campers; 5. seasonal naturalist training (for camp and non-camp staff). If a camper gets Covid, camp will need to shut down. We discussed how to minimize disruption to the camp schedule. If camp is open every other week, the quarantine period would be over before the next session starts.

Membership Committee: 110 members.

Environmental Committee: Peter attended 2 zoom lectures about burning as a way to improve natural areas. One by Deborah Landau of the Nature Conservancy, sponsored by the Native Plant Society. The other by Dan Smalls, who manages meadow properties on the Eastern Shore. Dan said he burns to maintain meadows and improve habitat; he rarely mows.

Nature Trail Working Group: Kurt said the group met to discuss learning nodes and 2 planned bridges on the trail. He would like to get the bridges built before the June 27 event.

Trails Committee: Gero and Jeffrey will support the new nature trail. They are working on equipment maintenance. We need to make a schedule for the new trail so that everything will be done for June 27.

Paw Point: Beth reported 658 members.

Recreation Committee: Gero said a canoe trip is planned for late June. He has volunteered to help. He will try to recruit Steve Bruno and Steve's son.

NEW BUSINESS

Grants: Kurt said we are looking at new grants for trails, especially the trail behind the Nature Center. Potential grant-giving organizations like that we do most of the work ourselves.

BWB Event June 27: Gero suggested that we may want to have a silent auction. He would donate the burl bowl made from a downed tree. Dan the beekeeper might donate honey.

LRNC President: Kurt said his term is up in November and he will not re-up. So we need to start thinking now about a replacement.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Minutes taken by Peter Lev.