

Lake Roland Nature Council
Executive Committee Meeting
May 5, 2021 at 5:30 PM
Meeting held via Zoom

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

Kurt Davis convened the meeting at 5:30 pm.

Treasurer's Report:

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	88,348.23
Total Current Assets	88,348.23
Fixed Assets	441,979.69
TOTAL ASSETS	530,327.92

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	79,484.00
Total Current Liabilities	79,484.00
Total Liabilities	79,484.00
Equity	450,843.92
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	530,327.92

Staff Report: Jonathan said interviews for the three 29 hrs./week positions have been scheduled for May 17. Park Ranger positions will be raised to 35 hrs./week pending county council approval of fiscal year budget. The Rec. and Parks budget includes a Nature Parks Director position.

Staff has finished netting small, recently planted trees to protect against cicadas. This includes Memorial Trees.

On May 17 the Nature Center will be reopened to the public. Jonathan may need some help from LRNC volunteers to ensure the Nature Center is adequately staffed.

Masks are still required for Lake Roland programs and for Paw Point.

The County purchased trash cans for the park, but with no lids! Current cans have rusted, and the new cans are no better in quality. Does LRNC want to invest in a few high-quality permanent installations for trash cans? We discussed whether 32-gallon trash cans would be adequate. How much trash does staff pick up after a pavilion rental?

Nicole Quinn, an entomologist from USDA, has requested permission to study whether a type of wasp that feeds on the Emerald Ash Borer has spread from Cylburn (where wasps were released) to Lake Roland. The EC saw no problem with this.

Jonathan would like to get Board Members and Master Naturalists more involved with writing for the park's social media and for the newsletter. Kurt said it was very important for newsletters to be published consistently. A shorter newsletter might be easier to write and edit on a consistent basis.

Membership: 154 members.

Committee Reports:

Environmental— Peter said nothing new to report.

Historical: Kurt said he expects a report from Howdy Knipp at the next Board meeting.

Paw Point: 838 members plus many applications to be processed. Last Sunday morning Paw Point was closed for a cleanup and there were no complaints from members.

Trails Committee: Gero and Jeffrey helped out with digging a hole for an amphibian pond at Cromwell Valley Park. On the Nature Center trail, work included stump grinding and tree removal. Seasonal equipment maintenance is mostly done.

The Paw Point cleanup went well. 2,000 pounds of soil and 200 pounds of grass seed were added. The fence needs some repair work.

2 Memorial Benches and 1 Memorial Tree are pending. The canoe storage site near the dock needs to be prepared.

The lumber is mostly in for work on the Nature Center trail. Jeffrey wants to quickly drill in the pilings and put in the platforms.

Recreation Committee: The beginner canoe trip is rescheduled for June 6. A Nature Quest canoe trip is scheduled for May 15. Other canoe outings are planned.

NEW BUSINESS:

We briefly discussed needed Miscanthus removal around the Orange Trail. Jeffrey said his priority was scheduling the Nature Center Trail work. After that he will schedule the Miscanthus removal.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Minutes taken by Peter Lev