

**Lake Roland Nature Council Board Meeting
September 21st at 6:30 PM
Meeting held via Zoom**

Meeting convened at 6:32 pm (adjourned at 7:15)

Board Members Present: Kurt Davis (acting chair), Jeffrey Budnitz, Howdy Knipp, Carlton Sexton, Rob Hart, Rick North, Peter Lev, Roger Gookin, Bill Hokemeyer, Lydia Redding, Dorothea Lankford, Dwight Johnson, Steve Bruno

Guests Present: Kimberly Warren

1. Approval of previous month's BOD meeting minutes

2. Treasurer's Report

Jeffrey Budnitz

Sep 21, 22

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings 183,327.85

Total Current Assets 183,327.85

Fixed Assets 480,412.83

TOTAL ASSETS 663,740.68

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity 663,740.68

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 663,740.68

3. Staff Report

Rob Hart

- Rob said he has received a list of candidates for the open Park Ranger position. About 20 people applied. Interviews will be held in the next few weeks.
- No word on when we will be able to fill the Administrative Aide position, which has been upgraded to full-time, 35 hrs./wk.
- Lake Roland is in line to get either an extra dumpster or an additional day of dumpster collection.
- Contractors have almost finished painting hand railings in the park.
- Email system has been updated to a shared account for staff to utilize.
- Preparing for Howdy's historical tour on Sunday. There are 12 participants currently signed up.
- Camp out coming up this Friday night. Rob has notified local police and fire services as an FYI.
- Staff and volunteers are mostly lined up for Learning Day.

4. Membership Committee

Jeffrey Budnitz

- LRNC currently has 172 members for this year. Need to start preparing the membership letter and mailing.

5. Environmental

Peter Lev

- Miscanthus removal needs to start soon to allow for new growth to emerge. Howdy can recruit 5-6 volunteers.
- Peter has information on an environmental program in PA if anyone is interested.
- Howdy noted that there is a significant outcropping of wisteria near the yellow trail/cigar shop entrance, as well as a smaller one on the blue trail. These will need to be addressed this winter.

6. Historical Preservation

Howdy Knipp

- Howdy reported a successful meeting with Dr. Catherine Sterner. The LIDAR data report is still under analysis. David Wallock has created a Google Docs page to upload findings and related documents. He has been a very good resource for historical information on the Park, especially around the old railroad system.
- It would be useful to install a display cabinet in the Nature Center to hold artifacts from the Park.

7. Paw Point

Siobhan and Beth

- We currently have 1,074 members. The cleanup/dogs & donuts event is scheduled for October. There will be two events with walk-up registrations in November.

8. Trails

Jeffrey and Gero

- Update provided by email.
- Kurt indicated that a Scout Troop 35 is coming to work on the Red Trail steps. Volunteers are needed. Scheduled for Nov 12-13.
- Mailbox must be replaced due to rust on the bottom.
- Park renaming for DNR inventory (to Lake Roland from Robert E. Lee) is still in process.
- Dorothea noted a Baltimore Sun Letter to the Editor discussing Red Trail maintenance issues. Kurt and Jeffrey provided additional context on working with the County on traffic design around the Red Trail entrance on Falls Rd. Jeffrey displayed the LRNC website Red Trail Access issues links that are available to the public. We are currently unable to unload an excavator, skid loader, or dump truck. The removal of the traffic barrels has allowed for cars to park illegally in the existing loading area.

9. Recreation

Steve Bruno

- Rob reported that fall program registration numbers have been good, thanks in part to the program calendar being posted two weeks ahead of time. The winter calendar will be posted a month early to allow patrons ample time to plan.

10. Old Business

- Learning Day is scheduled for Oct. 8 from 9-2. Carlton reported that preparations are coming along smoothly, but that BWB's marketing/outreach push must go out soon. Activities will take place in several areas, including the Nature Center, pavilion, and other nearby areas including trail intersections. The Pollinator Garden activity is the farthest distance from the Nature Center. We currently have enough volunteers, though we could use a couple more.

11. New Business