

**Lake Roland Nature Council
Executive Committee Meeting
December 7, 2022 at 6:30 PM
Meeting held via Zoom**

Meeting convened at 6:33 pm.

Executive Committee Member present: Gero (Chair), Jeffrey, Bill, Steve, Rob, Beth

1. Approval of prior EC Meeting minutes.

Minutes approved unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report

Jeffrey Budnitz

Dec 7, 22

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings 166,269.53

Total Current Assets 166,269.53

Fixed Assets 502,737.83

TOTAL ASSETS 669,007.36

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity 669,007.36

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 669,007.36

3. Staff Report

Rob Hart

Grounds & Facilities

- Trees at risk of falling down on the Red Trail near the light rail tracks have been identified .
- A staff meeting was held last week to determine staff roles for Paw Point.
- The Rec & Parks truck that usually stays at LR is still being used at Meadowood, which generates a lot of trash due to frequent sporting events.

Administrative

- Shared drive folders are being updated, SOPs written, and purging of old files.

Staffing

- Omar Boyd is leaving to take a position at the National Aquarium.
- The Department hired a new Farm Manager at the Ag. Center.
- Bob Smith will be acting Director as of January 3. He has significant experience in the Department. The current Director will step down effective December 31.
- Rob noted that Ben Porter indicated the new administrative aid position announcement will be posted soon.

4. Membership Committee

Jeffrey Budnitz

- The membership letter will be sent out next week.

5. Environmental

Gero Verheyen

- Gero, Howdy and others did some work in the serpentine area; Rob's team was able to pick up the leftover bags of vegetation.
- Cutting of the meadows will begin this weekend, along with the old rugby field.
- Skid loader is in the shop with electrical updates being installed this week.
- Jeffrey will pick up radios for the volunteers on Saturday.

6. Historical Preservation

Gero Verheyen and Bill Hokemeyer

- Katherine Sterner gave a talk last weekend on the project to date.
- Ground penetrating radar data is in the queue to be analyzed.
- The LRNC will need to decide how to handle the cemetery area as a historical site (i.e., marked with a trail for visitors, or leave it undisturbed with no trail. Gero suggested a document presented to the LRNC would help us to weigh the options and consider the implications of each potential path forward.
- Jeffrey noted that we'll need to consider that the park is leased from the City, which has different interests than the County.

7. Paw Point

Beth Hoker

- A third walk-up registration event took place on Saturday. We have 290 members since Nov 1.

8. Trails

Jeffrey and Gero

- Awaiting final repairs on the skid loader. Jeffrey placed a load card in the vehicle.
- Gero discussed the old dock steps adjacent to the dam and suggested we explore the idea of clearing a small area where patrons could look out over the lake. Steve suggested we also consider the old dock steps near the light rail bridge.
- Jeffrey discussed some of the history of the dock steps, which included patrons misusing the nearby non-trail areas that resulted in erosion of the shoreline.

9. Recreation

Steve Bruno, Rob Hart

- Rob noted that the recent wreath making event went very well and that more will be held.
- There will be no Friday walks in January or February.
- Kiana Shirkin is working to standardize the archery programs across the County, or at least updating the LR program.

10. Old Business

11. New Business

- Gero noted that email posted to the LR email account is considered read-only. If emails merit a response, they should be forwarded to the EC to do so.