

**Lake Roland Nature Council  
Executive Committee Meeting  
May 3, 2023 at 6:30 PM  
Meeting held via Zoom**

Meeting convened at 6:34pm.

Executive Committee Member present: Gero (chair), Bill, Beth, Jeffrey, Matt, Steve

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1. Approval of prior EC Meeting minutes.

The minutes will be circulated once complete.

2. Treasurer's Report

Jeffrey Budnitz

May 3, 23

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings 123,135.07

Total Current Assets 123,135.07

Fixed Assets 580,282.68

TOTAL ASSETS 703,417.75

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity 703,417.75

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 703,417.75

3. Staff Report

Matt Hand

- The new Park Ranger activity coordinator has accepted the offer.
- The new Ranger II started on Saturday.
- The eventual next step will be to hire a Ranger I.
- Kyle is working to support the master naturalist trainees as they volunteer for the required hours (usually 40) required to complete their projects.
- The truck is still getting fitted with the new bed; there was an error in the spec.
- The group discussed the unsanctioned art that was recently removed from the Park.

4. Membership Committee

Jeffrey Budnitz

- LRNC Memberships to date: 128

5. Environmental

Gero Verheyen

- Miscanthus activities continue as previously discussed.

6. Historical Preservation

Gero Verheyen

- Howdy has been busy working with volunteers to clean up the old barn foundation area.

- LRNC will seek grant opportunities in the fall, with materials prepared well in advance.

#### 7. Paw Point

Beth Hoker

- We currently have 794 members.
- Last week's cleanup was postponed to this Sunday due to weather.

#### 8. Trails

Jeffrey and Gero

#### 9. Recreation

Steve Bruno, Matt Hand

- The turtle canoe outing will be postponed due to weather. As the organizing group intends to charge for access to the event, and since this is against County regulation, there need to be discussions as to how to approach this. The goal is to let the program continue in a way that is consistent with rules.
- Several program activities have been cancelled due to weather and staffing shortages. The staff are working hard to limit the impacts and have requested assistance in covering the Nature Center this coming weekend. We may need to reconsider some of the summer programs if there is insufficient staff availability.
- A group that rented the pavilion cancelled their event due to weather and has requested a credit. Pavilions being covered by definition, Jeffrey noted that the only time we've issued refunds/credits is when the Park has been closed. Lightning events are not exempt, since being under the pavilion is considered sheltering in place. The group agreed that deposits may be held until the end of the year.
- Nature Scouts was conducted today and was a success.
- Owl Prowl is coming up, as is the nature flower event, campfire jam, and Mother's Day Tea event on May 14.
- The group discussed trout stocking in connecting streams and a related Boys Latin project.
- There will be a cleanup of Willow Island, including trash pickup and maintenance.
- Gero inquired as to whether there will be any canoe clean-ups planned (there are none so far).
- Howdy is planning a canoe turtle outing on May 27.
- The Rangers are still working on finding a home for the snapping turtle.

#### 10. Old Business

#### 11. New Business

- There is an upcoming meeting on fish habitat and stocking with DNR and Coastal Conservation Association Maryland (the ED lives in the area and visits LR regularly). DNR will assess the feasibility of conducting a habitat, water quality and fish population analysis. Jeffrey noted that the Water Quality and Level sections of the website contain lots of information about the fish, habitat, etc. He noted that the bottom of the Lake is bare, leaving little habitat for fish. DNR's survey is scheduled for Monday May 15<sup>th</sup> at 9am.
- EC/Board development. Gero discussed how he would like to grow and diversify the board in the coming months.