

**Lake Roland Nature Council**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**July 5, 2023 at 6:30 PM**  
**Meeting held via Zoom**

Meeting convened at 6:37 pm.

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

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1. Approval of prior EC Meeting minutes.

- The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report

Jeffrey Budnitz

Jul 4, 23

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	91,773.83
Total Current Assets	91,773.83
Fixed Assets	586,529.99
TOTAL ASSETS	678,303.82

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity	678,303.82
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	678,303.82
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3. Staff Report

Matt Hand

- Matt was out on vacation last week and operations went smoothly.
- We have a new program leader for the summer, Kayla Tanner.
- Another program leader, Owen Mihavitz starts tomorrow.
- Next week Matt will help interview for the Park Ranger I position, which is county-wide. We hope to have a good pool to choose from with 12 candidates, though the beach-located parks will get priority for the top candidate. If there is a second qualified candidate, Lake Roland will

have an opportunity to hire them. One current and one former staff member have applied for the position, though they may not realize that the top candidate will go to a beach park.

- The Bridges program will come to Lake Roland tomorrow. It's an opportunity for low-income students to attend camp in one of the area private schools, as well as at Lake Roland.
- No volunteers have signed up for the Willow Island canoe clean-up Saturday morning, but Matt and two others plan to attend; Gero may be able to join to provide a fourth set of hands.
- Matt received the green light to install reef balls from the County offices overseeing Property Management and Dam Maintenance. The latter office is not in favor of installing x-mas trees or sheets of plywood that the reef balls would sit on to avoid/limit sinking into the silt (pieces could break off and pile up at the dam), or placement of anything anywhere near the dam. We'll need to locate the sewer line that runs under the upper part of the Lake and steer clear of it. Steve noted that current discussions do not involve activity in the upper part of the Lake. Sewer line data is on the website (environmental section under sewer). If plywood is used, we'd need to make sure not to use pressure treated wood that may contain chemicals. We can postpone further discussions until David S. is able to complete the mapping of the lake bottom.

4. Membership Committee Jeffrey Budnitz

- We have a total to date of 136 members for this membership year.

5. Environmental Gero Verheyen

- Some spraying has been done in the Sunnyfields area.

6. Historical Preservation Gero Verheyen

- Historical preservation efforts, inventory: Gero noted the good cataloging work that had been done.

7. Paw Point Beth Hoker

- We currently have 899 members.

8. Trails Jeffrey and Gero

Refer to latest Trails Update circulated by email.

9. Recreation Steve Bruno, Matt Hand

- We're starting to plan for fall activities and will update the Nature Council when more info is available.
- One challenge the team faces is when volunteers are working with children, they must have a cleared background check. Sometimes there are weeks when the latest volunteer list doesn't come out in time to put on the activities. Jeffrey advised a way to sign up for Signup Genius to get access to volunteer info so he may have earlier contact with them.
- Steve mentioned the activities coming up this weekend.

## 10. Old Business

- Master Naturalist program approval/disapproval process: Jeffrey noted that we need to finalize our review process. Beth inquired as to whether we receive monthly updates on Master Naturalist projects. Jeffrey has not been receiving any, and Beth said Kyle noted the guidance document should be completed by mid-summer. The group agreed that we should be receiving monthly updates on the program. Gero agreed to follow up with Kyle.

## 11. New Business

- Implementation: Jeffrey noted that Howdy suggested each trail is inspected monthly to see where maintenance/improvements are needed. Matt stated that the rangers keep a list, and that volunteers or patrons usually report trail issues during Nature Center business hours. Jeffrey noted that Howdy's idea would enable a structured repetitive interval that volunteers can sign up for. Kurt suggested a signup genius that is open for people to pick a day and have the trail assigned to them by the rangers upon arrival. Jeffrey advised one weekday and one weekend day be offered for the signup genius, and that there are plenty of people wanting to sign up for trail work. Gero noted that trail signage could also encourage patrons to speak up.