

**Lake Roland Nature Council
Board Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2019 at 6:30 pm
Lake Roland Nature Center**

Board Members Present: Lydia Redding, Elise Butler, Jeffrey Budnitz, Marc Klein, Carlton Sexton, Dwight Johnson, Gero Verheyen, Christine Corbitt, Peter Lev

Other Attendees: Ranger Jonathan Wood, Kimberly Warren, Kay McConnell, Corey Johns, Bob Smith

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the April 2019 Meeting were approved.

Guest: Corey Johns, at-large member of the Baltimore County Dept. of Rec. and Parks Board, introduced himself. He has a strong interest in the nature parks. Corey said he will attend other meetings as his schedule allows.

Treasurer's Report:

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| Current Assets Checking/Saving | 62,504.37 |
| Fixed Assets | 376,731.18 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$439,235.55 |

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|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Current Liabilities | 149,484.00 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | \$149,484.00 |

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| Equity | \$289, 751.55 |
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| TOTAL LIAB. & EQUITY | \$439,235.55 |
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Rec. and Parks Staff Report: Ranger J. Wood reported on volunteer groups working in the park since the last Board meeting. These included high school students, Towson University students, a corporate group, and the once-a-month Weed Warriors.

Upcoming events include Fairies and Dragons, June 9, 1:00-3:00 pm, volunteers may be needed; and the Great American Campout, 6:00 pm June 21 to 9:00 am June 22. In case of bad weather the campout will be canceled. It doesn't work to move indoors to the Nature Center because the Center has motion-activated lights.

Environmental and Historic Preservation Committee: Kay McConnell said that the May 4 Native Plant Sale had been a success. Good weather, lots of volunteers, brisk sales. The followup sale of remaining plants by appointment at Kay's house has been slow because of all the rain. Gross sales so far are slightly below last fall's Native Plant Sale.

Roger Latham and his team were at Bare Hills Barrens (BHB) on Thursday 4/11. Elise Butler, Kimberly Warren and Kay McConnell stopped by at the end of Roger's site visit and took photos and videos. These are now on the LRNC website.

Two employees from Century Engineering spent several hours on Saturday 4/13 putting down wooden stakes to mark the center of the Nature Trail as proposed in Larry Weaner and

Associates' Concept Plan. Jeffrey Budnitz purchased metal markers to more permanently mark the trail. Elsie Butler, Kurt Davis and Kay McConnell spent a day pounding the markers into the ground.

Peter Lev reported that the insect study (butterflies and moths), part of Roger Latham's Serpentine Restoration Plan, is underway. The first evening of the study, May 9, went very well. Entomologist Jim Young of the Natural History Society of Maryland and the Smithsonian is doing the research. The second day, May 14 for butterflies, was canceled because it was too cold. LRNC purchased a large job box to assist the study. When the study is complete in September the job box will be used by the Trails Committee for other projects.

Paw Point Committee: We have more than 700 dogs registered.

Trails Committee: Jeffrey Budnitz said that a few weekend projects for Benjamin Banneker Park have been completed. A number of projects are pending in our park.

Recreation Committee: Gero Verheyen reported that no running events are planned in the near future. Lake Cleanup on April 27 was postponed because of bad weather. Lake cleanup involves volunteers in canoes as well as people walking to accessible spots.

Membership Committee: J. Budnitz reported we have 201 members.

Residents Committee: Bill Jones was not present. Jeffrey Budnitz reported that a Lake Roland neighbor had done stormwater management improvements to his property. DEPS (Baltimore County) was concerned about the impact on the park. Jeffrey contacted DEPS to say the improvements positively impacted the park.

New Business: Bob Smith, a park member and a "semi-retired attorney" (his phrase), had sent an email to the park information address a few hours before the meeting asking for two things: 1. An explanation of how to get an item on the LRNC Board agenda; 2. Information about all contacts between Board members and the developer of the Bluestem project on Falls Rd. relating to Open Space money. Despite inadequate notice, P. Lev let Bob Smith verbally state his requests.

P. Lev explained the process of preparing the agenda for LRNC Board meetings: A few days before the meeting, the Secretary writes a draft agenda and circulates it to the Executive Committee, including Ranger Wood. After comments from the EC, the Secretary finalizes the agenda and circulates it to the full Board. To request that an item be added to the agenda, emails should be sent to the LRNC President and Secretary several days in advance. Priority will be given to Board Member requests. Approval of requests is not automatic.

The Board briefly considered Bob Smith's second request. After a few minutes, Peter Lev asked if there was a motion to proceed with the discussion. No board member spoke in favor of continuing discussion. Board member Christine Corbett expressed her frustration with the direction Bob Smith wanted to take the meeting. She said the meeting had been hijacked from its intended purpose. Absent a motion to continue discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Minutes written by Peter Lev.