

Lake Rescue Association
August 24, 2012
Mary Fino's home

ROLL CALL: Marty Fino, Frank Wingate, Alan Grant, Angi Benson-Ciufo, Natalie Fisher, Ann Rose, Charlie Robinson, Jerry Latta (via Skype).

Marty called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes: approval motion by Alan Grant, seconded by Natalie Fisher. All in favor.

We have awards to be given out to Mary Rita Batesole and Glenn Brown. Alan will give award to Glenn and have photo taken of him and Chris. Marty will give award to MR.

Dredging update – update from Steve Hanna. The state had visited the lake (Steve Hanna) and as a precondition to the permit there needs to be a meeting with the contractor and the State regarding the use of the boat access. Steve has informed us that there have been comments from individuals questioning the need for the dredging. There was discussion regarding the public comment phase of the permit process is over. The board will ask Steve specifically what public comments have been made. The state is also seeking information on plant removal. The board will ask for clarification on what they are looking for. There was discussion that it is unlikely that the permit will receive approval soon enough to allow for the project to occur in 2012. There was further discussion on timing of the project in 2013 – spring or fall? Charlie will contact the state and contractor (Chris Sheldon) to set up the meeting as requested by the state. Charlie will also reach out to Mike O'Neil to see if he can attend the meeting as it pertains to the trucking and use of the Fishing Access property.

Ecosystem Restoration Grant: This grant has been submitted and should have an answer in Mid-September. The board discussed what involvement would be needed from the board. Kristin Underwood informed Charlie that any time board members spend on this should be documented. There was discussion whether any time spent will free up money that LRA is responsible for. There was discussion about the Regional Planning Commission possibly being willing to administer this grant. When/if the grant is approved, the board will consider asking them to do this. Charlie reported that per the Town of Plymouth select board meeting that they are doing surveys of ancient roads. Charlie reported that FEMA has set aside 18M for buying out landowners in areas that frequently flood. There was discussion about whether or not Pingree flats will be included in this. Charlie discussed this with the State that this property may not be eligible due to the fact that this was not a primary home for anyone and being a primary home seems to be a requirement. Charlie would like to see two LRA board members be appointed to the ERG board. There would be 2-3 meetings per year. Charlie would be willing to do this.

Fundraising: Barb called in for this portion of the meeting. Current pledges and donations currently total almost 42k. There was agreement that given the permit timeline, we will not be sending out any further fundraising letters sent out until we receive a permit or have a better idea where that stands. Various board members will follow up with specific homeowners regarding pledges.

Jerry Latta that many companies that match dollar for dollar donations that their employees or retired employees make. This will be highlighted in any future mailings related to fundraising that are sent out.

Lake Pauline Issues: Charlie provided Ann with names and a map of all the members in that area. Ann will reach out to see if there are areas of concern . Frank reminded us that our divers do search Lake Pauline once a year.

Audit of Books: The last audit of the books occurred in 2008. Natalie will ask if Wayne is willing to perform an audit for us.

Lake report cards: Jerry commented on previous committee work regarding riparian buffer zones. The board decided to not recommend the committee work at that time but to further the effort with education of residents regarding buffer zones. Liz Spaulding personally presented to the Planning Commission during the time that they were updating their town plan. The new Ludlow town plan update (Feb 2012) has a statement regarding water protection which includes 3 recommendations that LRA is involved in. These are broad recommendations, but do not include specific actions. They do mention that the town will work with the lake associations on these issues. Jerry is willing to investigate other areas in the State, and other states, to see how they deal with these issues. There was board consensus for Jerry to gather information and report back to the board.

Review and update of Lake Rescue By-Laws: Charlie reported that it has been approximately 4 years since they have been reviewed.

Areas to consider reviewing:

Voting rights – Article 2(b) currently permits one per owner. Even though a person may own two parcels, they still only have one vote.

Associate membership vs. membership – we charge the associate member the same amount as a regular member even though they do not receive any voting rights.

Article 2(a) – you must own property in the lake district to be a member. We have members who are not actually in the Lake District that are members.

Page 4 – it specifically says that we cannot undertake any specific project involving any general assessment upon or contribution from the members needs to be voted on.

This will be reviewed further at a future meeting.

Loons: The Vermont Center for Eco centers would like LRA to consider making a donation. Frank recommends a donation of \$100.00. There was board consensus to do so.

Milfoil: Chris Sheldon came to do the milfoil search. They stopped the search due to visibility issues. Frank will ask him to come back and try again in September with hopes for better visibility.

Membership Directory: There was discussion regarding the need for an update. Board will discuss further

Other business: Better Back Roads – Marty is trying to have them come out and look at the potential project for Lake Shore Drive. John Neal (road owner) will be invited to the meeting.

Next meeting – October 8th 10:00 a.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.