

LRA Board Meeting, April 16, 2016

Meeting Minutes

Attending: Marty, Charlie, Frank, MR, Barb, Mike, Ann, Jerry (by Skype), Natalie (by Skype)

STRATEGIC PLAN BY KRISTEN UNDERWOOD

1. Kristen Underwood suggested we consider the Vermont Community Foundation/Orton Foundation grant that would do the same thing that Kristen would do - help small organizations such as our get leadership, clear plans, efficient systems, and a sustainable money stream in place. The grant is for \$2,500 and the next feasible deadline date is September 30.
2. Kristen will charge \$1,500 - \$500 for Part 1 (detailed outline, including a list of key areas, goals for each, completed within a month) and \$1,000 for Part 2 (define strategies and implementation plan)
3. Kristen has offered to help us write application, which is detailed
4. 2 options were discussed: pay Kristen \$1,500 or have her help us develop grant
5. She will help us write grant – Ann offers to help Kristen –
6. We will ask Kristen if we could pay her to write the grant, as part of Part 1 of her work, and if we are awarded would use the money to pay her to implement Part 2.
7. Ann and Natalie have offered to work with Kristen.
8. Motion by Mike to authorize KU to proceed with the stage 1 report. MR seconded – passed unanimously.
9. Motion by Ann ask KU if she is willing to write entire VCF grant recognizing it may cost more than the initial \$1,080 originally proposed. Ann has agreed to be contact person between KU and state. MR. Frank amends motion to include Natalie as co-leader in grant appl. Mike seconded. Passed unanimously.

CLOSURE APPLICATION FOR EURASION MILFOIL CONTROL

1. Marty spoke to Jan Duggan, requesting more info about their request – there have been more delays, and time is of the essence at this point.
2. This is very frustrating, the state is asking not only for info they already have, but for info that is not required. Charlie, along with Frank and Marty, prepared a response, addressing each item state requested, and edited letter for appropriate language – wants board to review for errors and tone.
3. Natalie suggests Ann Bove give Jenn Duggan a call to encourage her to speed this along. Marty says Ann will be happy to review the response letter. It was agreed it is important to highlight the timing issue and to try to get to the top of Jenn's priority list. Since we need to put out no boating signs by June, as there is only a 90-day permit, we need to submit letter to Ann for review as soon as possible.
4. Discussion about types of milfoil in each area and whether locations on map are accurate. Frank - we don't know what all the species of milfoil are in the lake – some is not native and we will need to identify what type we have if we do suction harvesting
5. Divers coming in May -Jan Yoder will use a GPS locator to get accurate measurements of milfoil

6. MR will take James, the greeter, to area and have him ask boaters to stay away from those areas
7. The application will include plans for meets and greets, more screening hours, getting people with pontoon boats to put screens on boats
8. MR met with divers about insurance – they now have their own insurance. Divers think we have an excellent handle on the issue – don't think we need more drastic measures, such as suction harvesting –
 - a. Divers have requested that they paid this summer in a more timely manner – had issues last summer getting paid – and didn't get 1099 till February – we don't want to lose them. We need to discuss this with Angie. Marty will contact Angie to discuss.
 - b. Also had issue getting milfoil screeners getting paid.
 - c. It was agreed that after a 2-week period, if check not written, Ann will contact Angie
9. Frank reviewed milfoil report – grant app for \$16,800 sent to state – we were awarded up to \$7,580. Application requested funding for 2 divers (\$16,800), greeters (\$2,880), plant survey in May-June (\$2,400), as well as in-kind personnel (\$3,080). It also included establishing 2 no boating zones, an a public education initiative. In order to get money, need to submit invoices. Haven't heard back for which parts of the application they will allocate the \$7,580.
10. Natalie suggests we consider applying for Okemo Community Foundation grant. MR will contact Kathy Burns, the contact person, and see what process is for applying
11. Frank makes motion that we spend up to \$22,080 on milfoil, which includes Yoders and survey and greeter program. May be additional costs. MR seconds. Approved unanimously
12. Jerry suggests we find out where is town on this issue.
 - a. Marty spoke with Frank Heald about getting funding assistance from the town, as Lake Dunmore does. There needs to be a ballot decision on town meeting - next March. Need petition with Ludlow resident signers. Greeters could ask for signers.
 - b. Charlie – what would our general budget be if we have to keep this program going at the same rate – MR this will be the first year with divers here all year, and so it is too early to determine. Marty suggests we develop an operating budget
 - c. Marty – move to give consideration to asking town for money, and to wait til mid-summer to determine severity of milfoil. If density is severe, we will begin petition process to submit to town. Mike seconds – approved
13. Marty – we already have a \$14,500 grant. We need to include all these numbers to state to show we are investing money in this. We are paying twice as much as the state is

MEMBERSHIP

1. Barb and MR are working on publishing a new directory that includes a revised “So You Live on a Lake”
2. Toni from Mary Davis Realty will do membership directory – wants information by May 1
3. It will not include the lake property map, but will be alphabetical by name and by property address; will include boating regs.
4. MR will go through town listings to get new names and addresses
5. Barb will send out email to members to ask for updates to information and permission to include in directory
6. Barb will send separate message to those in arrears with request to join or not be in directory
7. Charlie is having trouble with Sort function in excel. Barb will check on this.

MILFOIL MEET & GREET

1. Need to plan a series of events to educate the lake community about milfoil, how to mark milfoil spots, etc. It was agreed that hosts will be found by “neighborhood” starting in July – several over the summer (including at the July 4th picnic)
2. Presentations will include info on milfoil, and what residents can do to help. Can also include LRA membership push – open to any resident, summer tenant, etc.
3. Do by coves – local neighborhoods – Natalie will host one – MR will find hosts for Archibald Cove (Vanneman, Andrews, Killian?) – perhaps host 2-3 over the summer in each area?
4. Hosts will personally invite all area neighbors, members or not. Make general announcement via email and website with all the dates so that people could attend any event that works with their schedule, if their neighborhood event doesn’t work
5. Plan: make fliers and put at everyone’s front door a couple of weeks ahead, beverages, snacks, perhaps brief powerpoint, one person presenting about milfoil and how people can help – 4:30 on a Saturday for maybe 30 minutes.
6. Frank will work out key points for people to present – any board member can present key issues
7. Other points:
 - a. Suggest marking milfoil with noodle pieces, rope with brick
 - b. How is pontoon boat apparatus work? This is a voluntary, makeshift thing, maybe fine mesh net – Marty will ask Lake Dunmore to send picture
8. Barb suggests finding a volunteer member to coordinate the meet and greets. She will send email to membership to organize & coordinate

RECRUITING NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

1. Since Marty is leaving, will need new president. No one is willing to assume the role at this time. Charlie suggests we leave things in place til Annual Meeting, and share responsibilities. Barb suggest we rotate responsibility for each board meeting
2. MR – can use Community Center but not Town Hall for meetings – Barb offered her house for May 21 meeting
3. MR says Andrews and Vanneman interested
4. Charlie, Ann, MR, Barb get together to nominate members – will need current list of all locals who were or are members. Charlie favors having the board balance toward locals.
5. Discussion about earlier decision to expand board to 11. We don’t necessarily have to have a full board, if we are unable to fill each seat. Will retain motion to expand board to 11

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mike will store boxes of LRA historical docs in his office
2. Jerry will be asked to continue to help with reconstructing LRA history