

LRA Meeting Minutes, June 17, 2017

Attending: Barb, Bill, Frank, Mike, Natalie, Ann

After minor spelling correction noted of Kristen's name, Ann moved that the May minutes be approved, Natalie seconded.

Financial – Ann reviewed P&L statement. After executive session discussion, Bill moved to hire local accountant Tim Faulkner to assist and file our tax returns. Mike seconded.

Membership – Natalie noted error in the new directory; Barb will proofread for any additional errors. Will give Toni McPherson from Davis Realty LRA coasters as a thank you. Barb asked that process be changed to do a generic mailing next year without mail merging individual contact info. Ann noted we have received as much in donations as memberships. How to get membership up? We agreed to continue general outreach by board to neighbors. Barb will design a marketing tri-fold to send to non-members with membership letter next year that outlines the benefits of joining the LRA to self and community – picnic, inside intel, invasive species, good of the community, get the newsletter. Barb, Natalie and Ann will discuss offline how membership information and other online communication is being handled and by whom.

Newsletter/Buoy vandalism issue – Natalie needs ideas for articles. Board should help and provide ideas and drafts. Discussion followed about the buoy vandalism article and what our role is regarding the vandalism. We need to find out who is responsible for safety of lake – state police or local police? What is LRA liability, if any, if an accident on lake? Do buoy markers have any impact on our liability? Mike will ask Police Chief Jeff Billings to come to next meeting as we should be clear about. Mike will ask an LRA member and attorney Marty Nitka to come to next meeting to discuss this and larger legal liability issues. Wayne Fisher visited briefly and believes getting additional liability would be inexpensive though probably unnecessary. He feels it would be a stretch for LRA to be held liable – thinks 1million is sufficient.

Used to have a water safety chair on the board and a refrigerator magnet with VT safe boating laws we gave to members. Bill will talk to Gary McIntyre, who did this the last time.

July 4 picnic – still need a games person. Barb will draft an email notice to membership. Ann will contact the Ludlow Youth Program director, Howard Paul. We agreed to pay \$75 for event (tug of war, egg toss, 3-legged race, hula hoops). Lost money last year due to increase in food costs and notice that people had to pay in advance. This year we need to make clear that you can pay at the door, but urge people to rsvp. We will send out an email reminder just prior to event.

Lake Health – milfoil - Yoders have come 8 times. They began on May 23, and they pulled 150-200 plants; so far most were small. They have seen a lot of fragments in lake. Found a patch of 80 plants in central part of lake, in path of boat traffic, just off Discovery Island on shallow mounds. Also in Natalie's cove, like last year. Also in Narrows, and off fishing access. Frank reports that we just need to stay on top of it – the situation is better than last year and year before.

Lake monitoring – will give coasters to Norman for getting good printing price, also gift certificate for monitoring – give together. Barb will bring coasters to next meeting – will get GC from Ann.

Website – Barb has been in touch with Bruce Zanca – will try for meeting Friday afternoon. Natalie and maybe Bill may also attend. All agree the website should be a priority.

Annual Meeting - Aug. 5, 9 a.m. Barb will reserve meeting space at the Community Center. Mike will invite Frank Heald to come speak – he needs to talk more specifically about the TDI New England project. Worried about massive disruption to East Lake Road, and erosion, etc. Is town going to help if there are problems – what are we and the town going to get out of this? Mike will ask Frank Heald if we can get someone from TDI to come talk to us. Barb will call Liz Spaulding to see what she knows. Frank will bring milfoil – big piece. Yoders will also be invited (present early). Agenda will be sent around.

Board membership – Natalie and Bill agreed to new terms. We need to replace Jerry, as he has resigned. Barb will draft a thank you letter to Jerry from the Board. We need to determine officers and new board member before next meeting. Board terms:

- Frank, Ann, MR – 15 – coming up '18
- Barb, Jerry, Mike – up in '19
- Natalie, Bill, Doris – up in '17 – need to nominate and put in proxy.

Have 5 residents now (MR, Doris (rep. Sarah Hart), Ann, Frank, Mike), and 4 non-residents (Barb, Natalie, Bill, Jerry). Proxy should be out by July 17 with board nominations. Natalie will invite our top choice to join board. If he is unwilling, Barb will send out an email to board with names we have previously considered for discussion.

Strategic Plan – Kristen developed a strategic plan outline that focused on watershed issues, for which we paid \$475 or so. We applied to VT Community Foundation to fund her to do bigger plan – was denied because it was too focused and needed to be more of a broad, organizational development plan. Can re-apply – is now a rolling deadline. Natalie will call Elizabeth Marks to talk about re-applying. Barb will call Jim White to see if he might be willing to conduct a board strategic planning retreat.

Other business – Placing buoys: Bill will ask Gary McIntyre to put in buoy on Slacks Pasture. Last year Greg McGowan took out buoys in the Narrows and did it for free. Mike and Bill will do the ones on each side of Narrows. Ann moved that LRA pay for a new buoy in Slack's Pasture Cove if needed, Mike seconded.

Meeting adjourned at about 11:50 a.m.

Next meeting: July 15. Need location for next meeting.

