

LRA Board Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2016

Attending: Barb, Ann, Charlie, MR, Jerry and Natalie (by Skype), Frank (by phone)

1. **Arrangements for handling finances.** Natalie, Frank and Ann met with Maria. She will do whatever we need, charges \$30/hr. It was agreed that we need someone to do Quickbooks, that few transactions are needed, and thus Maria will not be costly to hire. Ann will connect with her. We need to have a system where checks are written promptly. Ann offered to go to bank to get authorization to write checks. MR will serve as back-up signer. Ann will post transactions on Dropbox and pick up mail.

Reviewed LRA assets. Ann will meet with Leslie at bank about transferring \$50,000 in checking into either our savings account (which would ensure liquidity) or a CD, depending on interest rates.

2. **Status of Ludlow Community Center application.** Ann has applied but hasn't heard. Thinks it will be available and will follow up. We need to determine the agenda, whether we will have an invited speaker, etc. Will address this at June meeting.
3. **Status of closure application for milfoil.** Frank heard from Perry and sent in the information they requested. We can assume the application is now all set, and we can start on June 8, if we choose to close off any lake sections.
4. **Milfoil update.** Divers were in the water all day Friday, May 20 and reported to MR that we are in excellent shape and will not need any more aggressive actions at this time. They provided a map of the locations of milfoil, water depths and GPS coordinates. They pulled 30 single stalks of milfoil in places where last year there were thick, matted beds. They pulled from 19 positions in the lake, most in the Round Pond "hot spots." There was only 1 plant pulled in the main lake in front of Drydens. Nothing in the Narrows was found. There were 30 stalks in one area, 15 in a second spot.

It was agreed we will put in small marker buoys around the RP hot spots. MR will offer water ski buoys, etc., and will go out with the Yoders to install. She will show James, the greeter, about the locations of the buoys so he can advise boaters. Natalie will put notice in newsletter. Yoders will be back first or second week in June.

5. **Update on greeters at boat landing.** MR still needs to connect with James to ensure he is on board, and if he will be available Memorial Day weekend. She will fill in, if not, and will collect new materials from milfoil school to disseminate. Barb offered to help next weekend.
6. **Milfoil meet and greet.** Agreed, in light of encouraging news from the Yoders, to put this on hold for now.

- 7. July 2 party.** MR reports that Tom from the Loft wants to cater the event. He can do the entire thing, and provide all materials and food, tables, grills, tableware, etc. We will get a quote when we determine the menu and how many people will attend. Based on last year's attendance of 135, we will plan for 150. MR has been in touch with Spauldings and Mahoneys, will do the insurance for the event, secure a porta-potty, and will contact a Rec. guy about identifying 2 teens to run the games. We agreed to offer them \$50 each. Charlie will check into a speaker system. Rain date: July 3.

Question: do we want to cover our costs and charge \$15 adult/\$5+/- for kids, or keep the fee at \$10 and absorb any loss as a good will gesture and part of what the LRA offers membership.

- 8. Update on strategic plan.** Kristen is on vacation and will get her draft to us next week. ERG 2 – the new owner of Echo Lake Inn will not give approval for an easement to create berms. The other site was determined to not be the right property. Kristen and Marie are therefore looking for other ways to use the money allocated, which may include more plants at Moneybrook. Charlie is looking for someone to take over the management of this project, as he is retiring from the board, but agreed that he could remain involved, if needed. We have until Aug. 30 to submit an application for strategic plan funding, so we have some time to decide.
- 9. Membership and directory.** Because the membership spreadsheet is not sorting correctly, the directory will not be published until the membership letter goes out asking members to provide correct information. Barb will compare Dropbox edition to her corrected edition; we agreed not to sort any spreadsheet until this gets resolved (which may include retyping into a new spreadsheet). Membership heads-up email went out a few days ago and the letter will be mailed Monday. MR will go to Town Hall to get an updated list of property transfers and new homeowners in the lake district, and Barb will send out second mailing with new names. Barb revised "So You Live on a Lake" – a few edits were offered, but it was agreed it was good to go. Probably at this point the publication will not be available until late summer.

We need a new webmaster – Natalie will check with Amit to thank him and let him know we are looking for someone – she will put an ad in the newsletter. In the meantime, Barb and Natalie will try to get it updated.

- 10. Nominations.** It was agreed we will not pursue a change in by-laws to increase board size from 9 to 11. We have very few locals, perhaps 30 maximum, many fewer than in past years, and if we had 11 spots, even if not filled, we would still need a quorum of 6. Locals are those who own property within 25 miles from the lakes. We discussed instead the potential of getting the increasing amount of work to be done by establishing volunteer committees; while this has not been very successful in the past, it is still a possibility. We need to identify a Treasurer and a President. At present we will need to fill 2 or 3 positions, and because we currently have 4 local members, they can be either local or non-local. Charlie and MR will pursue potential candidates discussed and confirm interest.
- 11. New business.** LRA archives discussed. Barb will create new page on website and put up old documents that have been scanned.

Next meeting: June 18, 9 a.m., Barb's house