

LRA Board Meeting, May 19, 2018, 9 a.m.

Minutes

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

1. **Honoring MR.** The board acknowledged the loss of MR and her multiple and invaluable contributions to the board and the lakes over so many years. Suggestions for honoring her included: a) naming the July 4 picnic after her; b) including a piece in next Lake Breezes newsletter; c) donating \$500 to Dana Farber melanoma fund ; d) honoring MR at annual meeting; and e) pursuing the creation of a scholarship in her name, the amount to be determined (\$2,000 +/-), for a youth pursuing post-secondary education perhaps interested in environmental or sports-related, exact criteria to be determined. Ann and Barb will brainstorm and report back
2. **ADA dock** – There has been no known decision about whether this project has been approved. Frank reported on the public hearing, noting there was an impressive turnout, especially from Round Pond, and several energetic people spoke at the meeting;
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Ann reported that the December Annual Appeal raised \$11,905. Donation amounts ranged up to \$3,000 in one case. Ann wrote individual thank-you notes to all. Discussion followed about determining accuracy of dues totals, loss from the July 4 picnic, etc. It was agreed to move \$30,000 from money market to a new CD to get better interest rate.
4. **Milfoil Report.** The Yoders will begin diving the last week in May. We spent \$2K on boat screeners, \$15K on divers last year. Our grant this year is \$7,698 (asked for \$12K), was \$6100 last year.
5. **Greeter Program.** Frank needs help with items 4 and 5 on grant deliverables table, which covers the greeter program. Someone is needed to replace MRs role, go to training and manage program. This includes hiring, training, and creating working schedule for greeters. Ann reported the Macksey family members (father and uncle) might be interested. Ann will contact Jeanine Norman about this. Their son, James, was the greeter last year but stopped mid-summer. Greeter is paid in-kind. Discussed possibility of offering whoever steps forward interim place on board to fill MRs place. Last training is May 26 (802) 622-4212 in, Berlin (78 miles north). Question: Can a board member go and then train and pass the responsibility to someone else? Barb will ask Bruce if he is interested in overseeing program and going to training. Frank will try to locate person on Round Pond who is very interested in milfoil and who interacts with Yoders a lot in summer. Barb or Ann have offered to go to training on Saturday if no one is found this week, and then train someone later.
6. **BRATT invasive species workshop.** Ann has let them know we are too busy this year and will consider participating next summer.
7. **July 4 picnic.** Agreed on date of Wednesday, July 4, with rain date of July 5. Need to determine how to do many of the things MR took care of:
 - a. Bill will contact Fletch to see if he has a folder from MR on picnic. He will ask for any info, game materials, etc., will ask Fletch if he has any interest in running the games, and will let him know our plans to honor MR
 - b. Barb will obtain permission from Spaulding and Mahoney to use their property and will work on invitation
 - c. Ann will get insurance, port-potty, and will meet with Tom from the Loft to set up catering and to find out what he provides and doesn't provide (e.g., tables, drinks, etc.)

- d. Natalie will search for a games person – will contact Greshins and Fergusons (maybe Lattas, Schwartz?). Egg toss, rope pull, 3-legged race. Decided to hold off on drawing contest with T-shirts til next year.
 - e. To be done: microphone, games prizes, tickets, armbands, who will collect tickets, etc.
 - f. Question of whether we should charge more; it was agreed that this is not a fundraiser, but an offering from the LRA to the membership to build community and celebrate, and we shouldn't worry too much about a net loss for the event
8. **Board membership.** The board needs to replace MR's seat. Several people were considered. We will discuss at next meeting. We can fill the seat with either a local or non-local residents.
 9. **Membership.** Dues will remain \$50 per family. Natalie – will go on town website and send new property transfers to Barb – Ula Cook works for town and can help figure out how to get info out Barb will work on tri-fold brochure about LRA for new property owners and non-members
 10. **Lay Monitoring.** Ann will thank the Normans again for their work and give \$100 – Natalie will put mention in newsletter if room
 11. **Newsletter.** Articles will include: milfoil update, honoring MR, Fishing article (Natalie), Ice Out article (Frank), website article (Barb), annual appeal report, annual meeting reminder, Norman thank you, if room
 12. **Annual Meeting.** Date: Aug 4, 9 a.m., Ludlow Community Center. Barb will reserve space. Agreed on 3 speakers. Frank will invite to Scott Murphy, new town manager, to speak, as well as Yoders and the game warden. Will discuss mailing out proxy at June meeting.
 13. **Website.** Barb reviewed new site, which is nearly ready to launch except for minor missing items and the decision about secure membership/fundraising platform via NeonCRM. A few suggestions were noted, but it looks good overall. Ann and Frank will pursue ordering boat regulations frig magnet – Frank will review/revise content, Ann will order. Mike will be asked if he has Natalie's sample. Neon's proposal was reviewed. Fundraising/membership combo capability is \$110/month or \$1,320 a year. Choosing one of those (fundraising or membership) is \$50 month. Concerns included whether the fundraising capability was worth the extra money, and if we would lose a personal touch and individual contacts if we have everything automated. Agreed we would maintain paper mailings, reaching out to non-members, writing personal thank you notes, etc. Also agreed to try the full package and back out of the fundraising module if it doesn't appear worthwhile. Barb will ask Neon about this. Rollout, including web designer fees, one-time Neon costs and a year Neon's \$1,320 fee is approximately \$3,215. Offsetting this figure is VT Properties sponsorship, and other future fees from sponsor ad space. Agreed to hide sponsor pages until we have a few sponsors in hand. Also agreed increased visibility and donation functions with new website will enable us to raise more funds. After Year 1, estimated website cost will be \$1,400 a year.
 14. **Buoys.** Slacks Pasture buoy needs replacing at \$225. Bill reports that Gary McIntyre will buy and put in place; Frank will place the one in Archibald Cove, and will ask Mike to place the 2 buoys in Narrows.

Next meeting Saturday, June 16, 9 a.m., location TBD.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:15 p.m.