

LNID Board Trustee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 6, 2024
10:00AM via Zoom

Present: Glenda Stewart-Smith, Noreen Minish, David Hetherington, Coral Brown, Pam Mann, Bill Kresowaty

Guests: Nora Walker

Meeting called to order at 10:02

Approval of Minutes

- Moved by Noreen, seconded by Glenda to approve the minutes for both the October 12 and Nov 16, 2023 board meetings. Carried.

Old Business

1. Standing Committee and Wetland Project:

- Dave reported that things are moving forward. Nature Trust has established a drop box for participants to share files.
- Still waiting for news regarding grants

Correspondence

1. Tax Exemptions:

- In response to a member's request we are looking into 3 cases that may fall into the category of tax exemptions that are not permitted.
- Re: a \$300 tax fee that was left unpaid when a property was sold in 2021. It is the responsibility of the conveyancers to ensure taxes are paid. LNID was not informed until weeks later that the property was sold. We have already spent \$100 on this case and our lawyer estimates it will cost much more than \$300 to recover the tax owing now. Pam will contact the new owners regarding payment. If new owners do not arrange payment we will put the question to the membership regarding how to proceed.
- Re: Aiken S Ranch: In response to a resident's demand that we follow the precise interpretation of the election law the residents of the Aiken S. Ranch, who were each paying the LNID tax and each allowed to vote, were henceforth to be considered a single entity, entitled to only one vote. The Ministry advised us to consult lawyers, who took 5 months to reach a decision. In the meantime, LNID decided to charge only one tax fee and forgive the other 6 fees. According to the legislation however this is not permitted. Glenda has personally taken responsibility for this mistake and has reimbursed the LNID for the \$1800 out of her own pocket. Glenda will send out an email to members to explain.
- The Ministry is still looking into the Aiken S situation as well as an agreement made with Nature Trust in which we forgave them the tax fee in return for land they provided to us in order to create a statutory right of way allowing us access to our pumping infrastructure at the SE corner of the lake. This agreement was included in the complaint charging illegal tax exemptions. These are now with our lawyers.

Reports of Officers

1. Financial Report:

- Pam has finally heard back from a federal agent regarding our request to claim for GST rebates. Our request has now been forwarded to the powers that be to sort out.
- Tax notices have all been sent out and most fees paid. Some left to collect.
- Financials have been handed in to accountant for review.
- Pam is now working on next year's budget.
- One term deposit is reaching maturity date and we need to decide what to do with it.

2. Water Report

- LTL level at 17.18ft. T. Pond full at .485m. It will begin flowing into LTL once ice is off.
- Data logger is still not working. Bill tried unsuccessfully to reset it and will try again next week. Dave will contact Drew for further instructions.
- Snow report indicates about 84% of normal snowpack for this time of year.
- Aquifers are just above normal.
- Coral will check with residents near the upper culverts on Horn Creek regarding water flow there and if culverts are clear.
- Coral recommends that we try to find out the status of culvert work that was halted a few years ago due to request from Similkameen Band for study of archeological artifacts there.

Bylaws. Resolutions:

There was no discussion of bylaws or resolutions as we are waiting for feedback from our lawyer.

New Business

1. Budget Preparation:

- The Ministry is satisfied that last year we did adequate consultation with members re: our budget (ie. discussion at AGM, our decision to lower the fee from the proposed \$400 to \$350 in response to members' concerns)
- Pam will try to complete budget preparations by March 21.
- Glenda proposes somehow separating the essential operating items in budget from optional spending on projects. We'll have to see how this might be implemented in a clear and practical way.

2. LNID Website:

- Website is down for now. It has a "critical error". Wordpress was contacted and their attempt to fix it made it even worse. At this point Glenda is not even able to log on.

Next Meeting : Thursday, March 21, 10AM

Adjournment – at 10:39am