

Rushford Lake Recreation District
Reorganizational Meeting
August 10, 2007

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Meeting called to order by Treasurer, William Szabo at 7:39 PM. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:	William Sikorski	William Szabo, Treasurer
	Gene Morton	Rhonda Kozlowski, Secretary
	Rick Gaczewski	
	Deb Aumick	

Guests:	Ralph Pascell	Cal Reigle	Pat Edmunds
	John Edmunds	Mike Holmes	Sheila Holmes
	Bob Stephan	Shirley Stephan	James Hock
	Mary Witkopf	Bill Witkopf	Jason Young
	Betsy Hirsch	Alyn Turner	Robert Weed
	Michelle Weed	Jim Estruch	Mary Smith
	Judy Wirth	Maggie Krzyzanowski	
	Janet Gaczewski	Thomas J. Thomas	Judy Cassara
	James Kay	Kathy Hock	Bill Jahnke
	Carol Jahnke	Carol Wilson	

Oath of Office was administered to Richard Gaczewski Jr. and David Hirsch elected to a three year and two year term respectively.

Nominations were opened for Chair. Gene nominated Deb Aumick, There was a second by Bill Sikorski. No other nominations. Secretary cast one ballot.

Nominations were opened for Vice Chair. Bill Sikorski nominated Rick Gaczewski. There was a second by Gene. No other nominations. Secretary cast one ballot.

Deb Aumick stated she would like to see some changes and see all respecting each other. She noted there had been a lack of civility and she wanted it to end. She stated no public comments would be tolerated until open forum. During open forum each person who wanted to speak could speak once and for 3 minutes only. She further noted if the board did not have answers to any questions they would try to get answers.

Deb also noted that the board is not a loose group but one body where the majority rules. She noted they will speak as one and respect each other.

She suggested there be a sergeant at arms to escort unruly individuals from the room. Upon motion by Rick, Thomas J. Thomas was appointed Sergeant at Arms.

Upon motion by Rick and a second by Bill Sikorski, Rhonda Kozlowski was appointed secretary.

Upon motion by Bill Sikorski and a second by Dave, Bill Szabo was appointed treasurer.

Upon motion by Dave, minutes were accepted as written.

Requests will be addressed at the August 25, 2007 meeting.

Old Business

Briefly discussed the proposed amendment to the enabling legislation for the RLRD. Rick requested permission to post the proposal on a website and post in the Buffalo and Olean newspapers. He further requested permission to go to the two town board meetings and personally hand each member the legislation. It was noted the town boards had received copies from the RLRD. Upon motion by Bill, Rick's request as noted above was approved.

Deb noted the legislation is not changed, just having substance added. She noted the RLRD will still remain within the bounds of the law.

Deb mentioned she would like to see a three-year plan for the District and asked that all start looking at needs.

Bill Szabo noted he would like to apply for grants and get funded as we go along. The RLRD would submit progress reports and payments would be received based on progress.

Sikorski noted a survey and elevation behind the dam need to be seen to.

Bill Szabo noted that political help is needed and thanks go out to Senator Young and Senator McGee before her. Deb then read the municipal resolution for seeking grant money for the dam project. Upon motion by Bill, the resolution was accepted as read and written.

New Business

Gene noted buoys in shallow water by Edmunds point and asked who placed them. He suggested they be marked. Rick noted they are hazard buoys placed by the parks and recreation department. Rhonda will make contact with the parks and recreation department to discuss missing buoys and other concerns.

It was noted that after the July meeting two additional launch attendants were hired. Further noted Rhonda was given the go ahead to accept the applicants. Deb noted it helps to pay a decent wage.

Upon motion by Bill, Rick Gaczewski was re-hired as operator at the dam. Rick abstained from the vote. All others voted in favor.

Deb noted that the summer youth employment program landscaped the park area near the dam, constructed and placed picnic tables and planted flowers. She suggested the park area be dedicated to the memory of Bob Dearstyne. Upon motion by Gene, approval was given to dedicate the park area in memory of Bob. A dedication ceremony will be planned.

Finance

Bill Szabo submitted disbursements for board approval. Budget items were discussed.

Open Forum

Bob Stephan asked about voting rights.

Bob Weed asked what the intention was of “natural persons” being a new requirement for voting rights. It was noted this is nothing new. “Natural persons” is in the original legislation from 1981.

It was asked if the RLRD has a website. The answer is no.

John Edmunds noted he appreciated the diligence of the Board of Commissioners and staff.

It was noted to tie off to buoys or place cinder blocks to tie off to is illegal.

Noted the dam area is a “no wake zone”.

Jim Hock asked about “natural person” being in the proposed amendment to the legislation. It was again noted that this is nothing new, it is in the original legislation.

Cal Reigle noted the bridge culvert by Trail 9 is causing severe erosion and docks to be washed out. Discussed a need to converse with the DEC and the County regarding solving this problem.

A question was asked about a rezoning ordinance. It was noted the RLRD deals with below the 1450' elevation line. This is out of the hands of the RLRD unless it will have an effect on property below the elevation line.

An attorney from Nixon-Peabody asked about “home rule”. It was noted the RLRD does not believe it falls under “home rule”. Several political figures and attorneys have stated that since the legislation was passed forming the RLRD, it no longer would fall under “home rule”.

Reviewed and discussed items to be included in the budget such as legal fees, repair cost (re-pointing on S side), property improvements, channel study, municipal training, reserve fund and engineering. All agreed to leave taxes as they are. It was noted the preliminary budget will be on file beginning Wednesday, August 15, 2007.

AT 9:26 PM, upon motion by Bill, approval was given for an executive session to discuss James Kay Jr. vs the RLRD and personnel salaries.

Returned to regular session at 10:22 PM upon motion by Bill.

Upon motion by Bill, draw down of the lake will begin October 9, 2007.

Adjourned at 10:24 PM upon motion by Bill.

Submitted by,

Rhonda Kozlowski
District Secretary