



LOST NATION-NEW LANDING RCD

February 12, 2008 Time: 7:00PM

I. Call to Order and Roll Call – Marty called the meeting to order at 7:07PM.

Board Members Present

Marty Portner -	President	Dan Dummett -	Vice President
Herb Hill -	Secretary	Betty Lou Finn -	Member at Large

Board Members Absent

Tina Trevino -	Treasurer
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II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Motion to Approve Agenda - Betty Lou motioned to approve the agenda. Herb seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [02-08-01]

IV. Motion to Approve the 01/15/08 Minutes - Herb motioned to approve the January 15, 2008 minutes. Betty Lou seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [02-08-02]

V. Review and Motion to Approve Treasurer's Report – Betty Lou asked what was stored at the Daysville storage site and Herb said the mower. Becky pays the contract six months at a time to make it easier on the books, however, it can be paid as often as once a month if the board desires. The board paid JadEco \$1,729.10 for professional aquatic services performed by Joe Rush from March 5 through November 7, 2007. The work performed by Lee County Electric is finished; however, Herb will be looking into why a couple of the lights didn't trip. The RCD paid \$900 for Lee County Electric to install a spotlight on the flagpole (\$575) and to install a parking lot motion sensor (\$325), which Becky took out of the Parking Lot Project line item. They spent another \$219 for them to repair a light on the outside of the building which Becky took out of the Repairs and Updates line item. Charges for a Microsoft Publisher course that Becky is taking and the needed software will be on next month's report. The RCD paid \$900 to Wes's Tree Service to plow their properties six times from December 5th-January 1st. Mike Robinson asked how the plowing is charged and Marty said that they charge the RCD a set amount of \$150 each time they come out to plow. Herb motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Dan seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [02-08-03]

VI. Old Business: Discussion of Liquor Policy for Lake Court Center Renters – a couple of RCD district members had asked Marty if they could have alcohol at their private wedding reception if it was held at the Lake Court Center so Marty brought it before last month for the board to discuss and they decided that it would be best to allow an open forum at this meeting to give members an opportunity to voice their opinion on the matter. Joe Olliges said that if the RCD decides to allow alcohol to be served during private events then they need to have an employee

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on hand at the event to supervise the event because it is difficult for renters to correct their own family and friends if they should get out of line. Mike Robinson read the following statement that he wrote:

When people drink alcohol their rational thinking changes and sometimes rules they would usually follow do not matter such as smoking in a non smoking building. Sometimes fights resulting property damage have occurred where alcohol was served. If a person has been drinking (especially if they were over served) they become a danger to the RCD building and property owners when they leave to return home. I have worked in a grocery store for 25 years where the local police departments (3) would check to see that the store was not selling alcohol to underage people and had consequences if they were caught. Who would "police" private events to monitor alcohol consumption? Who becomes responsible for injuries that are alcohol related? I feel the extra revenue resulting from increased rentals (because alcohol is permitted to be served) would not off-set the potential increased risk. He said that because the function is held in an RCD owned facility, the RCD may ultimately be held responsible if alcohol is served to a minor or if an accident should happen due to someone over served at the function.

Jerry Sellers said that it is even more dangerous because of the lake being right next to the building. He would be concerned with the liability and thinks that they would be opening Pandora's Box with the beaches and the lake being the next place people will want to consume alcohol.

Don Finn said that the risk to the RCD is far greater than any benefits that they would gain from officially allowing alcohol to be served. If a lawsuit ensues, the litigator is going to go after anyone who is involved and the RCD will be looked at as the entity with the biggest pockets.

Joe Bajko asked what the difference would be in the RCD allowing people to consume alcohol vs. the forest preserves allowing alcohol, as the Cook county forests preserves do. Don Finn said that the forest preserves have park police patrolling the parks all the time. Jerry added that Ogle County does not allow alcohol in their forests preserves and that is Cook vs. Ogle.

Herb said that the reason this was brought up is because a few people inquired about serving alcohol at their parties. Liability is not a problem as far as our attorney is concerned - if you rent this building, you are liable for damage done to the property. Once the people get out on the street, if they do damage, that would be a matter for security or the Ogle County Sheriff.

However, the people that approached the RCD are not here to state their case. Marty spoke to an attorney (not Nye) about the RCD allowing alcohol on their property and the attorney agreed that they really shouldn't worry about the liability on it, however, it is a sufficient enough of a black box to Marty that he doesn't want to open it. Regardless of what an attorney tells you, it only matters after the fact and it is a sufficient enough of a grey cloud that he doesn't want to go near it. Joe Olliges asked if they contacted the insurance company to find

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out what was required and Marty said that the insurance company said that it would be the responsibility of the renter to provide insurance for the event, however, there are still other issues like where do they get the insurance, does the RCD have to have an ordinance that defines what the specific tenets of the insurance are, does the RCD have to approve it, etc. and Marty thinks that from an administrative standpoint it would be a nightmare.

Herb said that given the fact that the interested parties are not present to state their case, he won't make a motion to allow alcohol. Neither Dan nor Betty Lou motioned either.

VII. Employee / Committee Report

A. LMC – The RCD is going to collaborate with the Nature Conservancy to apply for a C2000 grant (which have been used for various projects like shoreline stabilization, rain gardens, and improvements to watersheds) to convert 40 acres of crops and pasture land to native prairie grasses. Jerry has been working with Bill Kleiman on that. The Nature Conservancy applied for the same grant last year but didn't get it – they are hoping that the collaboration of the RCD with the Nature Conservancy will give them a better chance of getting it. Marty asked how much of a chance they think they have of getting the grant. The Rock River partnership, which reviews grants prior to them going in and puts them into a priority order hasn't met because of snow. They think they have about a 60% chance of getting it. Dan asked if the property borders Clear Creek and Jerry said no, it is contained a little further in on their property, however, it is in the Clear Creek Watershed, and anything that is done on that land to improve it as far as controlling runoff will help the RCD tremendously. Dan wondered about the cattle situation and Jerry said that one year ago, indications were that they won't renew the lease. Herb asked what was happening with the Orland property that encompasses Babbling Brook and Jerry said that he hasn't spoken to the Orlands in quite a while although the Nature Conservancy continues to have some dialogue with them.

Frank Durkin and Jerry Sellers are going to attend the annual ILMA conference from February 28-March 1st, which will be held in Springfield. Jerry will see many familiar faces including the gentleman who suggested to the fishing club how to build the floating islands, Sandy Nichols, from the VLMP program, Nancy Williamson from the C2000 program, and Joe Rush who is one of the directors this year.

VIII. Guest Comments – Jerry Sellers said that Vickie Webber will be presenting tomorrow at the Senior Focus meeting. Dan asked if Jerry would be attending and whether he would talk to Vickie about helping the RCD with more shoreline projects, however, Jerry said that she sold her greenhouse business although she will still honor all the work that she did in the past. The presentation will talk about what plants people can plant along their shoreline. Jerry is also interested in doing a presentation in the future on creating rain gardens or savannahs on personal property, which a homeowner can be reimbursed by a c2000 grant.

IX. Motion to Adjourn – Dan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Betty Lou seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [02-08-04] **Next Scheduled Meeting: March 11, 2008**

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February 12, 2007 Motion List

1. Betty Lou motioned to approve the agenda. Herb seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [02-08-01]
2. Herb motioned to approve the January 15, 2008 minutes. Betty Lou seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [02-08-02]
3. Herb motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Dan seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [02-08-03]
4. Dan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Betty Lou seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [02-08-04]