

BLSG Meeting of January 21, 2010
Unapproved Minutes

In attendance, through Zoom:

BLSG Board: Jeff Whiting, Paul Vaczy, Brad Lawes, Wayne Rausenberger, Richard Russ, Steve Belcher.

Others: Will Mathis (BLSG), Bruce Baccei (Proctor)

After some connection issues, the Meeting was called to order at 7:16 pm. As Mike Blaisdell was suffering from illness, Jeff Whiting assumed the Chair.

Some additions to the agenda were proposed and approved:

Brad Lawes asked for consideration of an audit and the creation of a legal fund, as well as the town reports, discussion of Montpelier issues and the position of the District Coordinator. Wayne Rausenberger asked that there be recognition of Kerry White's work on documenting pesticide resistance in local mosquitos. These suggestions were approved.

On the State Update, Jeff Whiting reported a push in Montpelier for the protection of bats; the issue lies under the discretion of the Secretary for Natural Resources, who at this time sees no need for action (per communication with Cary Giguere).

Treasurer's Report.

Brad Lawes reported the current balances on the BLSG accounts:

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|----------------------|--------------|
| General Checking: | \$152,117.11 |
| Capital Improvement: | \$18,128.33 |

On a motion by Paul Vaczy, seconded by Steve Belcher, the report was approved.

The Board then considered and approved a motion to set up a separate Legal fund. The motion was offered by Paul Vaczy and approved. Of available funds, \$5,000 will be transferred; following the results of the town meetings that should approve the BLSG budget requests, another \$5,000 may be committed.

The Treasurer also requested recognition of a donation from Camp Keewaydin, in the amount of \$500. The Secretary will send a letter of thanks. The motion by Wayne Rausenberger, seconded by Steve Belcher, passed.

Operations Report

Will Mathis described winter-time operations, centered on battery-charging. In the near future, the trucks will be brought into operation.

The question of town reports came up: not all town have received the reports for inclusion in their published Town Reports, and the deadline for submissions is at hand. Will said he would send them out.

New Business

Wayne Rausenberger requested that a letter of recognition be sent to Kerry White, who worked with the Cornell University team on the issue of pesticide resistance, and is cited as a co-author in an upcoming publication. Wayne's motion, seconded by Paul Vaczy, was approved.

The Audit

Brad Lawes reported that he had contacted a firm in Middlebury that performs the town audits for Leicester and Salisbury; they are well-acquainted with Eloise. Their estimate of costs is ca. \$7,000. Wayne Rausenberg offered a motion to authorize Brad Lawes to continue discussions (Eloise is going to provide information to the firm), and Paul Vaczy proposed a cap of \$8,000. The motion was approved.

Work on the Shed

Wayne Rausenberger had submitted, by email, a list of maintenance and improvement tasks for the shed. These involved insulation, carpentry, and the possibility of heat pumps.

The discussion involved specific companies with whom Board members had been engaged, and some disentanglement of the various tasks to be commissioned. Board members offered their experience, and prices, with heat pumps. There was some concern about dealing with a single supplier. After the discussion, a motion by Steve Belcher, seconded by Brad Lawes, was approved: Wayne was authorized to investigate the pricing of the work to be performed and to get estimates.

Salisbury: BLSG actions

Paul Vaczy had sent a request, prior to the meeting, for specific information on the BLSG activities in Salisbury. In discussion, it emerged that previously published figures covered Addison County. Will Mathis promised to deliver town-specific data.

District Coordinator Job Description

Brad Lawes had forwarded a revision, by Wayne, of the District Coordinator's job description for consideration by the Board. In discussion, Wayne clarified that he had offered it for future discussion, and that action should await a future meeting.

Town Meetings

Jeff Whiting asked that Board members participate in the Town Meetings (most likely on Zoom) in case of questions. It appears that all the town involved have a representative planning to participate.

The next scheduled meeting would be on Feb. 18, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Belcher