

**LAKE RABUN ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
lakerabun.org
September 3, 2006**

1. Welcome:

Kirk Knous welcomed the Lake Rabun Association members at approximately 10:05 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pavilion Dedication:

Warren Huddleston, Pastor of Clayton First United Methodist Church, offered a prayer of thanksgiving and appreciation for the new Pavilion. Reverend Huddleston also thanked the Lake Rabun Association members for their commitment to the community and the Lake.

3. Introduction of Trustees and Special Guests:

Kirk Knous introduced each of the Trustees at the meeting, together with several special guests, including Bill Harrison of Harrison Designs, architect for the Pavilion, as well as County Commissioner Pete Cleaveland, Commission Candidate Bob Fink, and State Candidate Carol (?) Jackson.

4. Approval of Minutes of our Spring, 2006 Meeting:

Minutes of the Spring 2006 meeting were approved unanimously.

5. Summary of Saturday Evening's Grand Opening:

Saturday night Kirk Knous reviewed last night's grand opening of the Pavilion, and mentioned that there was a "sellout crowd" for the barbeque, the band was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and that our total overall numbers have increased by more than 100% attendance for both the 4th of July event at the Hall Pavilion, as well as at this event. This in and of itself, according to Kirk, is clear evidence of fulfilling the purpose for which the community Pavilion has been built.

6. Thank you to Committee:

Kirk then thanked each of the members of the Pavilion Committee, which included the following individuals:

Ann Webb, Carol Raeber, Alan Price, Buz Stone, Dave Cowan, Thad Warren, Rick Asbill, Bob Voyles, Kirk Knous, Charlie Arp and Joe Hamilton, Sr.

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7. Officer's Reports:

- a. Chairman Dave Cowan thanked the LRA community for their support over the years and expressed his appreciation for being able to serve his tenure. Dave mentioned in an emotional moment, he and his wife Jeanne have gained a substantial number of new friends through their time on the Lake.
- b. Vice Chairman Rick Asbill reviewed the economics for the Pavilion, and mentioned that as of this morning, there were \$692,000 in pledges, of which approximately \$591,000 had been paid, leaving approximately \$320,000 in remaining costs that we would like to pay off by next year. Rick mentioned that the Trustees and Officers would be embarking on a campaign to hopefully remove or substantially reduce this amount of debt by Labor Day 2007. Rick also thanked the North Georgia Community Foundation for their work in connection with the Pavilion. Finally, Rick encouraged each of the members of the LRA to vote in local elections, citing the fact that many of the local elections are decided by less than 200 votes (less than the total number of people attending this meeting).
- c. President Kirk Knous thanked the LRA and the Board of Trustees for their work over the past years and reported that the golf tournament earned approximately \$6,000, and the home tour held on Fathers Day weekend in June raised approximately \$14,000.

Kirk then further reminded the LRA members not to “bring the big city to the mountains”, citing several examples of Atlanta-type behavior that is not entirely appropriate in Rabun County.

- d. Vice President Thad Warren reported the 4th of July activities were very successful, and thanked all those who helped with the preparation of the 4th of July event (prominently his wife Darlene who organized the picnics).
- e. Secretary/Treasurer Bob Voyles handed out the balance sheet regarding the projected 2006 final expenses. Bob explained that while expenses have continued to grow, the dues have remained constant for the past several years, thus eroding the normal \$15,000 - \$17,000 targeted surplus which the LRA has swept into the Lake Rabun Foundation in years past (this year it will only be approximately \$2,500).

Bob then reported that expenses next year are expected to go up approximately \$20,000 including increases for fireworks, special events,

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publications and printing costs for a new directory as well as Pavilion rental expenses.

Bob then reported that on September 2, 2006, the Trustees voted unanimously to increase the member's dues to \$200.00 per year, with a caveat for people who have a hardship.

8. Hall's Boathouse Memorial Plaque Update:

In Carol Raeber's absence, Dave Cowan reported that a second board would be added and the plaques are still available for sale.

9. Foundation Report:

Buz Stone presented a strong report from the Foundation (a copy is attached). Buz recognized several of the family scholarship winners who were there in the audience, and reminded the members of the Lake Rabun community the benefits that the Lake Rabun community has received over the years by virtue of their contributions to the Foundation.

10. Tour of Homes:

Libby Mathews gave a brief report thanking the five property owners who allowed their homes to be placed on the tour this year. She announced that they had raised over \$14,000 in funds from the tour. She also thanked members of her committee.

11. Mountain Patrol Comments:

David Bramlett gave a brief report on the condition of security at the Lake. He informed the community that a new website will be up and operating this fall (insert website address), and that the Pavilion will become part of his regular security team's circuit. David reported that it had been a quiet time (and a good one accordingly) on the Lake.

12. Lakemont/Wiley Volunteer Fire Dept.:

John Widgery presented a report and mentioned that volunteerism is generally dropping throughout the county, and it is getting more difficult to man the fire station. John also mentioned a new training facility at Station 4 is under construction, and that the Lakemont/Wiley Volunteer Fire Department wants very much to be able to support this new facility.

John then finally reported that fireman Joe Yarnell had a heart attack the previous week, and had a number of other family issues. As such, we "passed the boot" and raised a substantial amount of money for Joe's family.

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13. 2007 Flea Market Update:

In Jeanne Cowan's absence, Felicia Lease, Co-Chair of the 2007 flea market, announced that the theme for next year's market will be "For The Birds" and requested that people sign up for committees. Dave Cowan thanked Winnie Brown for all her hard work over the years, and also mentioned that beginning 2007, the flea market will be named the "Winnie Brown Lake Rabun Association Flea Market", in honor of her significant contributions to the LRA over the years.

14. Whippoorwill Award:

Roses Longino announced that the award this year goes to Denny & Ann Webb, who were not in attendance at the annual meeting, because they were attending a wedding in Idaho for Carol Raeber's daughter.

15. Old Business:

None

16. New Business:

Trustee Elections were held and all the proposed slates were elected unanimously (copy of slate attached). Also, people were reminded to purchase the logo items on the left as you walk into the Pavilion

17. Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.