



LOST NATION-NEW LANDING RCD

December 9, 2014 Time: 7:00PM

- I. **Call to order** – Marty called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.
Board Members Present – Marty Portner – President Glenn Baldwin – Vice President
Tim Spelde – Member at Large
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Good-bye to John Harris** – Marty presented John with a plaque and gift certificate in appreciation for his service on the board as a director.
- IV. **Motion to Approve the Agenda** – Glenn motioned to approve the agenda and Tim seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-14-01]
- V. **Motion to Approve the 11/11/14 Minutes** – Tabled as Tim was not present.
- VI. **Motion to Approve the Treasurer's Report** – Glenn said that he was concerned with the RCD's decrease in revenue from taxes and how it will affect their ability to go out for a loan for the dredging program that they want to pursue in the near future. Marty agreed that they are going to have to come up with some creative ways to get the job done – even if they have to do it piecemeal. Tim and Tom Clarey are getting the silt measurements which will give the engineer an idea of how much silt is to be removed, thereby giving the RCD a cost estimate for a dredging program. Glenn suggested that they research whether they could do a one-time assessment to help fund the dredging costs. Glenn motioned to approve the treasurer's report and Tim seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-14-02] Tim asked where their at with that and Marty said that they will get that info next month.
- VII. **Director Reports**
 - A. **Glenn Baldwin – No Report**
 - B. **Marty Portner – No Report**
 - C. **Tim Spelde – Commercial Carp Removal very successful** – they removed about 3,000 lbs. They have the permit so they can have him back in the spring. **Zombie Tour** – Tim thanked Barb Lundeen as it was very successful and a good time. Barb also thanked the RCD for supporting Pennies for Parks with that. **Don Finn Dredging Permit Process**–Tim thanked him for volunteering to help start the permitting process for dredging Tim is finishing up the readings with help from the fishing club. Tim recommended that they could mechanically dredge portions of the lake to help save costs. Tim's going to update the fishing club bulletin board. Tim asked if Shawn plows the dam and turnaround and asked him to only plow it a lane or lane in a half. **Security** - Tim said that they spend a lot on security and they may want to look at cutting back on security or eliminating it completely. **Roads** – Tim would like to look at fixing some of the RCD roads that need it.
- VIII. **New Business**
 - A. **Barb Lundeen/Frank Durkin- Proposed Native Grassland Walking/Fitness Trail at Oak Lane Park** Barb and Frank presented a proposal to put a Nature/Fitness Trail on the RCD's Oak Lane Park for the RCD to consider. (See attachment 1) Frank presented a conceptual drawing of the walking path. (see attachment 2) The two lots on Oak Lane that comprise of Oak Lane Park are just shy of an acre in size and Frank said he was able to create a walking path 3/8ths of a mile in distance through the proposed native grasses and flowers. They would start with 4 adult exercise stations to start with and Frank designed each station to have enough room to possibly install 4 more children's exercise stations in the future. There's parking for at least 20 cars and a boat dock on the property so community members could walk, drive or boat to the unique walking trail to exercise, walk, or just enjoy a peaceful day on the lake. Marty asked if the exercise equipment was sheltered or if they would survive the winter. Frank said that they are engineered to take the weather; however, if they want to put a tarp on it for winter to protect it, they could. Barb said that the equipment is made by the same company that they bought the playground equipment from and they are meant to be outside in the same manner. Marty said that he thinks it would be cool if they were sheltered. Barb said that could be the third step of the project. Barb said that there are two more lots next to the property that are owned by the POA and perhaps the POA would like to partner with Pennies for Parks to extend the trail in the future. Marty asked what they wanted from the RCD and Frank said that they were looking for support from the RCD in allowing them to build this walking trail on their property. Frank said that this park could be put on any

property that the RCD owns; however, Barb said that the property on Oak Lane seemed the best candidate as it wouldn't require as much work to clear (*note, also in talking to the CCWP, Rebecca Olson said that because it is a lakeshore property, they could use left over money from the current EPA 319 grant to buy native grass and flower seeds as it fits well with the EPA's program for to improve water quality by turning the property into native grassland, which has more nutrient uptake than a mown area - Becky*). Glenn said that in all the places he's been, he's seen several of these walking paths and they are really neat, especially with exercise stations – he thinks it would be a nice addition, wherever it would be located. Marty asked about maintenance of the property adding that the RCD already has money budgeted for mowing the area. Frank said that Barb has an outline of what it would take for the next 1 ½ years to prepare and maintain the property, including bringing in consultants on the types of native prairie grass and flower seeds and shrubs to plant. This would be developed as they move forward with the program. Frank estimates that it'll be 2-3 years before they see the project become a reality. Barb added that it would take 2-3 years just for the prairie to get established – she was told that you mow it at about 6 inches so that the prairie plants develop and then they sow a cover crop of wild oat that will cover it until the prairie develops. Frank said that once the shrubs and native prairie grasses have developed, there would be very little maintenance like cutting. Glenn said that a couple of years ago, the boy scouts built a walking path at the back of the campground – Tim added that you could get miles of trail back there. Frank said that if the walking paths that they are proposing now are successful, that (furthering the one at the campground) could be phase 2. Tim wondered if there was dialogue with Nachusa about creating a trail through the property that was once owned by Orland. Barb said that their idea is to make the walking path accessible and the park on Oak Lane would meet that need. The trail that is set up in the campground is great for people who want to walk back in the woods – the walking trail that they are suggesting is more geared toward someone who has 20 minutes to a ½ hour to walk a groomed trail that has exercise equipment for them to utilize, and the prairie plantings would make it so that they would not have to cut around the paths. Glenn thought it would be nice to extend it to lot 16 that they own and Barb agreed that she had thought about that too, getting the lot owners between the property's permission to extend the path through to that lot at a later date. Tim said that he thinks that it would be a great asset for the community and that they would have to look how it would fit into any dredging plans that they have for the future. Marty volunteered to be the RCD liaison for the PFP walking path project and if they have any further questions they can talk to Marty. Don Finn suggested that they approach the POA about helping with maintenance of the property and Barb said that they had also considered asking the POA if they could use their property that is adjacent to the RCD property on Oak lane for the path. Tim brought up dredging and said that based on the silt readings that he has taken they shouldn't need to dredge the area in front of lots 12 & 13 for awhile. He would like to talk to the engineer to find out if they could perform hydraulic dredging there; alternatively, perhaps they could ask the POA for permission to put the spoils on their adjacent property to dewater and then return it to its current state. Tim said he would get back to her once he talked to the engineer. Barb said that there was no rush as they can't do anything until spring anyway. Barb said that it costs about the \$400 to seed an acre of land and takes a few years for a grasslands to get established. One of their hooks to get volunteers to help seed the area would be to offer seed to the volunteers to use to establish grasslands on their own privately owned vacant lots.

B. Motion to Approve Darrell Jordan Shoreline Improvement Request – The board looked at the plans for the Jordan shoreline improvement and Marty provisionally approved the work, explain to Dave Nelson, the contractor that would perform the work, that there needed to be a board vote of final approval. Glenn asked about details of the project and Marty said that he's making repairs to the existing improvement. Marty motioned to approve Darrell Jordan's shoreline improvement and Glenn seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-14-03]

IX. Old Business –

A. LCC Rate Change – Marty came up with a plan (see attached) to cover various rental circumstances and rates for the LCC to outline his personal goal to net the RCD at least 50% (or \$7,500 from all rental revenue) of what it costs them to maintain the building. Marty presented his plan to the board for their thoughts on it. Glenn said that he goes along with Marty's recommendation. Tim asked if there was any feedback from the POA on their thought process because it seemed like they went backwards on their proposal. Marty said that the last meeting that he was at, they rejected the final offer that Steve made. They budgeted \$3,000 for rentals and Steve responded that that would cover rental usage for all POA members for community events not including POA's meetings and social events. Marty said that if they follow this plan, anyone who wants to rent the facility, including the POA, will need to follow the guidelines of the new rental agreement. Glenn said that the RCD's primary goal is taking care of the lake and they just spent \$17,000 for a new roof – money that is taken away from maintenance of the lake, including the future dredging planned. Tim agreed but said that the RCD has a responsibility to keep up their property as well and that the LCC is a part of the community. Glenn said that they agree on that; however, he wouldn't want to choose the building if it meant losing the lake. Tim said that they need to get creative in their budgeting. Glenn thinks that an obvious solution if they want to continue to maintain the lake is to have the POA help them with the expenses associated with the maintenance of the building. Their tax revenue has dropped 30% and they may have to make some tough moves – he suggested that if no one wants to rent it, they could close the building down and probably save the same amount of

what they are asking for. Marty said that he's not ready to give up yet; rather, he would like to offer this plan and see if the POA and other renters will utilize it so that the RCD can meet their goal. Glenn said that they have been trying to work on a plan with the POA for over a year and they are back to zero on their negotiations. In his personal business dealings, Glenn said that he is a landlord and he determines what the rent is based on what the market will bear. He feels that in this situation, the RCD is the landlord and that the property should be used by the POA and its members. Every development that he's ever lived in has had a nice building for the community to meet at. Marty said that the building will still be here and the RCD will still maintain the building, keeping it habitable, even if they have to shut it down. Marty said that it is okay if the other board members don't want to try his recommended proposal, he thought it was worth a shot to come up with something and it could allow a pathway to an agreement with the POA that could be realized either yes or no very quickly, because he put a provision in the agreement that allowed an organization with 100 or more members that has recurring use, if they want to rent the LCC, then they need to negotiate a rate with the RCD. If that fails, then they would have to look at other alternatives, perhaps drastic measures, to save money. Tim said that it is unfortunate that the POA and RCD can't come to a common ground and now they have to go to all the community groups like the card group and tell them they owe us \$50 to rent the building – it's going to be anarchy and people are going to rebel and he doesn't know how to fix it. Marty says he takes a different view of it – he thinks that the last 18 months have shown that the taxpayers don't really care about the building because in that 18 months, no one from Bunco or the card group came – only the fishing club came to voice their concern. The POA pretty much rejected every offer that the RCD presented to them, stating that they were not interested in paying to rent the building except for POA meetings – they appeared not to care about the rest of the population or what happens to this building, but they still wanted a nice, spacious, temperature controlled building with a lake view to have their meetings. Marty said that all the groups that had a stake in keeping this building open were conspicuously absent and he was appalled to discover how people really felt about the building. Glenn said that every property association that he's ever been a member of has owned a building that was paid for out of the dues of that association – it's the normal way of doing business. The only reason the RCD is managing the building is so that the property owners realize a tax savings on the taxes for supplies purchased to maintain the building and property taxes that would otherwise normally be due. If the POA owned it, they would have to pay taxes on it and we don't. Tim hopes that perhaps this rental agreement will spur energy from other groups which would create cohesiveness between the POA and RCD to come to some kind of resolution. Glenn motioned to approve Marty's proposal and Marty seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-14-04] Marty said that the Fishing Club does a lot of volunteer work for the lake for the RCD and he thinks that they should be allowed to use the LCC at no charge, Glenn agreed. Glenn motioned that the RCD does not charge rental fees to the Fishing Club and Marty seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-14-05]

B. Changing Locks on LCC – Marty is going to schedule to have the locks changed in the last week of 2014. The front door and kitchen will be keyed the same, the library doors will have different keys, and the other outside doors will not have a keyed entry, which will save them some money. Marty designed an updated application for a LCC entry key (see attachment 4). Marty said that he wants to implement this for security reasons and because the LCC is an asset that they have to protect and he's really uncomfortable with giving keys out to a lot of people that gives them access to the building 24/7. He feels that the RCD has to be more responsible for the security of the building, especially if they are not going to have security watch the building for them on an on-going basis. Part of the key check out process is having the applicant fill out the reason for needing a key and/or group that they are representing. It would also require a \$100 refundable deposit that the applicant would get back once they surrender the key. If the applicant's key is ever lost or stolen, they will forfeit the \$100 dollars and it will be used to defray the cost to rekey the building. The \$100 fee also ensures that only serious renters have a key. It also allows the RCD to be able to recall the key at anytime, again, returning the \$100 upon its return. Only property owners in the RCD tax district will be eligible to apply for a key. The board will review the application and deposit and, if approved, the key will be issued. Tim was concerned with the \$100 deposit – as an RCD board member he wouldn't want to pay that amount for a key. Marty agreed and said that they wouldn't charge the RCD board members or employees for a key. One time event rentals can have the building opened by an employee. Glenn motioned to approve the key application document that Marty proposed and Tim seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously. [12-14-06]

C. Expanding Office – Marty hasn't made any progress on the office expansion so he would like to keep it on the agenda. He has some volunteers who might be interested in designing a nice venue in there for the board to approve. Marty likes the POA's model that they have with a counter because it separates the work area from the public. Glenn said that they should keep in mind that Becky said that she only gets a few visitors a week and it is a beautiful office with book casing all around. **Tabled**

D. Year in Review Mailing – Instead of a mailing, Marty wanted to do a bullet list and he was talking to Rick Masterson about putting audio message on the website.

X. Guest Comments

Don Finn – Don said that he would like to see the website get a little more updated. On the letter that was signed by the POA rejecting the RCD's offer, 9 people wouldn't have signed it if the RCD had included allowing the POA to use the building for the \$3,000 that they had budgeted for use of the building. Don said that it was a crazy way to try to win them over. Marty said he agreed except Don is not considering the context – this has been going on for over a year now – the RCD's initial offer was \$10,000 and since then the RCD has capitulated time and time again. Don said that he has followed the situation from the beginning and has supported the RCD in it – he personally suggested to the POA that they give the RCD \$7,000 a year for three years and then after 3 years – look at the tax base and decide if they don't need as much but his idea to them didn't fly. He said that he is personally disappointed that the POA hasn't come up with more money but if you approached him personally and said "Hey, I want you to give me money but you can't come", why would I vote for that? Marty responded that the only way you would is if you cared about the membership because the membership was included in that \$3,000. Don said that he is trying to help the RCD by letting them know that the entire POA board is not against them and if they would have included the POA's usage in the proposal they would have perhaps supported it. Marty thanked Don and said that he understood. Glenn added that there was a little more background on that where the POA originally budgeted \$6,000, which would have included POA board usage, but when they presented the new budget for the community to approve, they knocked it down to \$3,000 and so for the RCD that \$3,000 amount that the POA budgeted wouldn't give the POA the same benefits that \$6,000 would have. Don said that this is the worst thing that has happened to this community in a long time and it needs to be resolved. Everybody's right and everybody's wrong. Glenn said that he thinks the issue will be resolved one way or the other with what they did tonight. Marty added that what they did tonight keeps the door open and Don said that he understands that. Marty said that the RCD will let the POA know that the door is open for another negotiating session because the application that they have approves mandates that any future usage will have to be negotiated per the application's rules.

Jeff Winterland – Walking Path – The Oak Lane lots will be a good test area, not overly extensive and that they will get a good feedback and maybe it could be a bridge to the POA and maybe they'd go along with extending it to their lots. Don said that they are going to need to utilize the POA's property to dewater any silt if they mechanically dredge that part of the lake so they should start thinking about getting the POA's permission to use the lots for dewatering. Jeff was wondering about filter strips and government subsidies and whether the RCD has looked into if they qualify for that. Jeff said that usually along agricultural fields, farmers are paid by the government to plant native grasses in a filter strip along waterways to filter the runoff that enters the water from the fields. Marty asked Jeff if he has the detailed information on that and Jeff said that he can get it for them.

- XI. Motion to Adjourn** – Glenn motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:34PM and Marty seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-14-07]

12/9/14 Motion List

1. Glenn motioned to approve the agenda and Tim seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-14-01]
2. Glenn motioned to approve the treasurer's report and Tim seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll call vote. [12-14-02]
3. Marty motioned to approve Darrell Jordan's shoreline improvement and Glenn seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-14-03]
4. Glenn motioned to approve Marty's proposal and Marty seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-14-04]
5. Glenn motioned that the RCD does not charge rental fees to the Fishing Club and Marty seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-14-05]
6. Glenn motioned to approve the key application document that Marty proposed and Tim seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously. [12-14-06]
7. Glenn motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:34PM and Marty seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-14-07]

Attachment 1**Walking/Nature Trail**

We are in the position of asking for the RCD board's permission and cooperation once again with a Pennies for Parks proposal. You have been so helpful to pennies for Parks in the past and we can only repeat how much we appreciate all you have done. We had a plan to turn an underused piece of RGD property into a walking/nature trail by building a asphalt path through and around Oak Lane Park and planting a native prairie in the area surrounding the path. After hearing of cost saving plans within the RGD budget, it occurred to us that using the vacant park land as a walking area and planting prairie grasses and wild flowers would solve a number of problems. The necessity for mowing the area periodically would be eliminated as well as minimizing the presence of geese and their droppings. In view of information that the area may be used for dewatering the dredge materials, the prairie part of the plan may have to be put on hold. One of our goals is to promote exercise within the community and a walking path would provide a place for year-round use. Walkers would be safe from vehicle traffic and slippery icy conditions. Establishing the prairie plants would also attract birds and butterflies which may make us eligible for certain types of park and conservation-related grants. The second part of our plan would involve purchasing and installing adult exercise stations at various points along the path. We have researched the equipment types and pricing involved and it appears to be economically feasible for Pennies for Parks to implement that portion of the plan.

If the board could support the first stage of the plan we feel it might go a long way toward fostering better community relations. Pennies for Parks has been quite successful in recruiting volunteers and community support for past projects and events so with your backing we would like to do some further exploration into the economic and physical requirements for this project. As a favor to us, Frank Durkin has done some preliminary research on the layout and dimensions of Oak Lane Park as well as preparing a conceptual drawing of the possible layout for the finished project at that site.

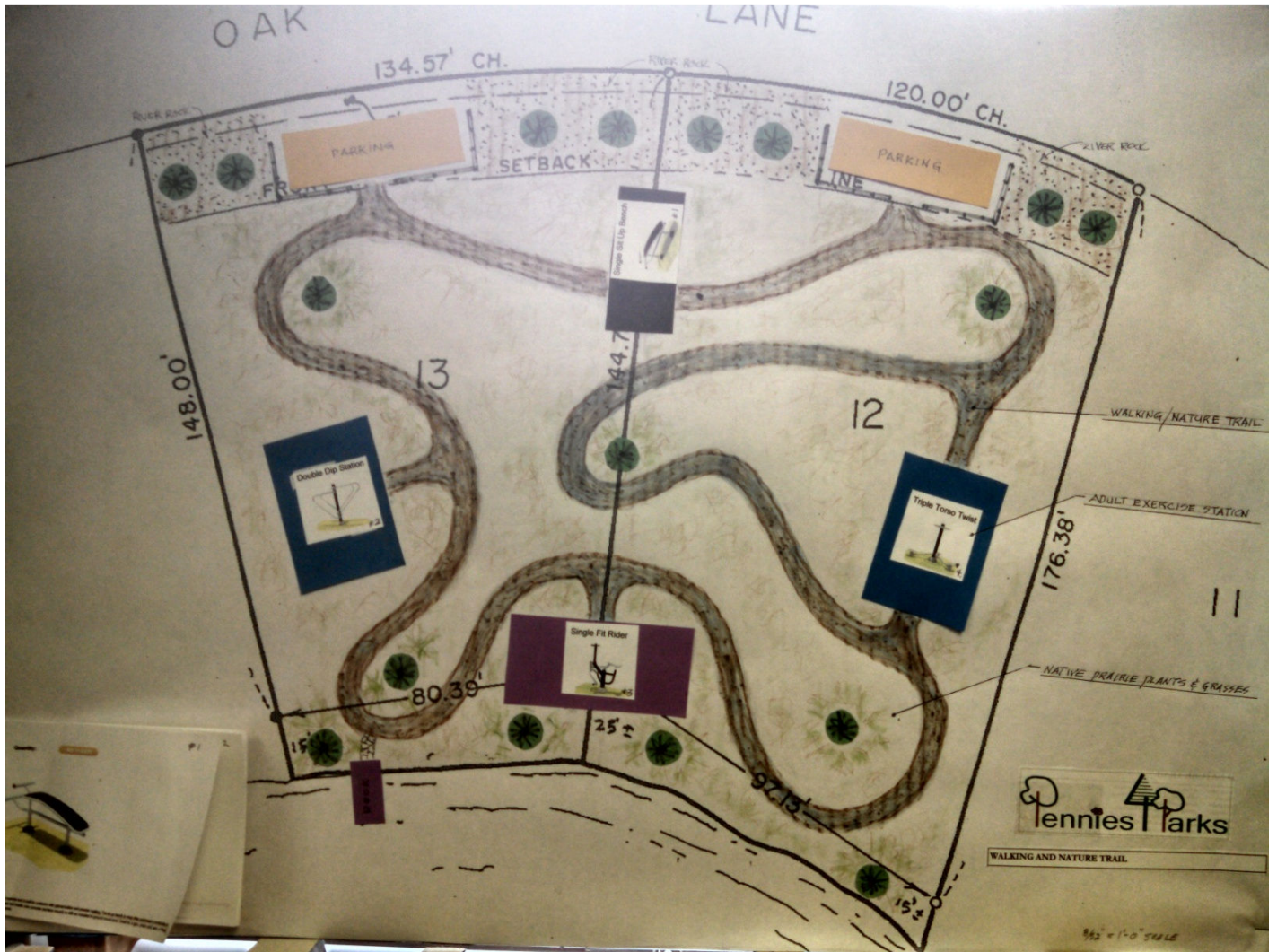
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Sowing a Prairie

1. Early Spring - Apply broad spectrum herbicide or till to eliminate existing plant growth. Series tilling or plowing is preferable for an area like Oak Lane Park which is close to watershed.
2. Fall - Construct asphalt path through and around the open area after thorough tilling.
3. Broadcast selected native prairie seeds. Include shorter varieties of grass (not aggressive types like switch grass and blue stem). Scratch in just slightly with the back of a rake. Winter temperature and moisture changes will work seeds in. Include a nurse crop in the seed mix such as Canadian wild rye to stabilize soil until seeds take firm root and mature. (2 to 3 years)
 1. Next Spring - Mow growth at 6" and pull aggressive weeds like field thistle and clover varieties. Mowing can continue periodically for 2 or 3 years until native plants and grasses are mature and established.
 2. Over-seeding and maintenance of unwanted weeds will be required.

Volunteer program

A core group will be required after the initial preparation and seeding to keep weeds in check. Volunteers will be offered packets of prairie seed to establish small areas on their own property. Smaller areas can be started by covering the desired area with tarp and smothering the existing growth before planting native prairie seeds and following the steps described above. Seed combinations are selected for various soil types and moisture conditions. An average seed price seems to be \$400 per acre or 8 cents per square yard as quoted by Genesis Nurseries.



Attachment 2 - Conceptual Drawing of Walking/Fitness Trail Courtesy of Frank Durkin

Attachment 3 - Application for Rental of the Lake Court Center (as of January 1, 2015)

Date of Event: _____ Time in: _____ Time Out: _____ # of People Attending: _____

Fee Enclosed: \$ _____ Category/Type of Event: _____ / _____

Example: Category 1, Birthday Celebration

Renter Name: _____ Address: _____

(Please Print)

Signed: _____ Phone: _____

* I/We have read the "Rules for Renting" (below) and agree to follow them and have paid the rental fees.

NOTE: The rental date is not confirmed until this form is signed and the rental fees are paid to the RCD. Reservations must be made with deposit and rental fees paid at least 30 days in advance.

A "First Paid/First Served" policy will be followed. Please make all checks payable to the "RCD". Send application, checks, and (if applicable, see #5 below), a signed, notarized copy of the Liability Insurance Agreement and a Certificate of Insurance naming the RCD as an additional insured during the event. - - - - -

(2 separate checks to "RCD" are required, one \$100 Check for deposit and one for rental)**Mail to: LNNLRCD; 404 Lake Court; Dixon, IL 61021****Rental Rules:**

1. The renter is responsible for any breakage and damage to the building and the grounds.
2. The renter is responsible for closing and locking all doors and windows before leaving the property.
3. The renter is responsible for set-up and clean-up of the building.
4. The renter is responsible for making arrangements for heat control and/or air conditioning.
5. Alcoholic beverages (beer and/or wine only) are allowed in the building with Liability Insurance Agreement & Certificate of Insurance
6. No smoking is permitted in the building.
7. The renter may use the appliances that are present in the building but they must be cleaned before leaving.
8. Music and noise must be held to a reasonable level with regard to surrounding residents. We reserve the right to terminate any event where the people are disruptive, destructive or disrespectful.
9. The library is not included with building rental.
10. The event must be ended by 10:00 p.m. and the clean up completed and the building vacated by 11:00 p.m.
11. Set up for rentals may be arranged on the day of or before at no extra charge if the LCC is available.

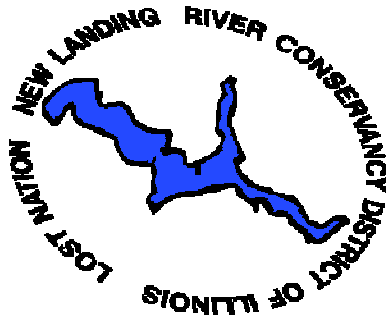
CATEGORY 1: Social Events: weddings, retirement parties, personal celebrations, club gatherings, etc. Individual tax payer renting for social gathering: \$20 an hour – 4 hour minimum. 5-8 hrs \$150. More than 8 hours \$150 + \$20/hr.	CATEGORY 2: Commercial: for promotion or sales of products or services. Individual taxpayer renting for any legal commercial purpose: Negotiable. Depends on whether there is risk involved and whether our insurance will cover the particular activity.
CATEGORY 3: Private organizations and businesses – single event. Private organization of > 100 members in organization: \$200 flat rate 4 hour min. 8 hour max. More than 8 hours : \$200 + \$25/hr.	CATEGORY 4: Private organizations and businesses – reoccurring event. Must be negotiated in advance. Contact the RCD office to set up an appointment.
CATEGORY 5: Charitable Use. For gatherings to benefit a 501 (c) charity: free. On the "honor" system. We may ask for proof that at least 50% of proceeds go to the charity. Based on availability. Paid rental will take priority if paid rental is booked 2 or more weeks in advance.	CATEGORY 6: Governmental Use – (no alcohol use) All governmental bodies (County, Township, Districts): free, based on availability. If you have frequent or recurring meetings, please negotiate the dates in advance for the entire year.

Cancellation of rental must be made 30 days in advance of rental date in order to receive a refund. Deposit check will be destroyed or returned (if S.A.S.E. is attached to application) after a satisfactory inspection of the building is made. If the building or grounds are not clean or are damaged, the deposit will not be returned. Any extra damage to the facilities will be billed to the users.

LNNLRCD · 404 Lake Court; Dixon, IL 61021 · (815) 652-2006

Attachment 4 -

APPLICATION FOR LAKE COURT CENTER ENTRY KEY



I, _____, am requesting an entry key for the RCD Lake Court Center Facility
 (Print Name Above)

Reason For Needing an Entry Key. If you are representing an organization, please mention below:

I agree to these terms:

- 1) I will pay a \$100 deposit that will be refunded to me when I surrender the key.
- 2) If the key needs to be replaced because it has been lost, stolen or otherwise is missing, I will forfeit the \$100 deposit to be used to help in the cost of re-keying the building. I will then need to re-apply for any future keys that I may desire, under these same terms.
- 3) I understand that I am responsible for the key and for surrendering it upon the request of the LNNLRCD. The LNNLRCD has sole discretion in recalling your key.
- 4) Only individuals who are current taxpayers in the LNNLRCD district will be eligible to apply for a key.

 Signature Date

----- RCD FILL IN BELOW AFTER REVIEW IS COMPLETE -----

STATUS: _____ BY: _____

KEY NUMBER: _____ ISSUED ON: _____

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF KEY: _____

Print and Sign Name

EMAIL: _____