

This is REALLY important.

Please take time to read it.

Particularly the part about the new membership rates.

As you know, we elected a new Board of Directors at our Annual Meeting on September 16. Since that election, the Board struggled to find a time convenient to meet. On October 28, four of the new board members gathered to choose officers. Dave was elected President, Webb agreed to serve as Treasurer.

Then the board discussed problems we faced over the past year and our future viability. We see three options:

1) If we can attract enough members for a strong, active board (minimum 8) that assume the many responsibilities of communication, planning and support, we can expect to enjoy our special place for many years into the future. Without sufficient, active board participation, perhaps we can hire an Executive Director for LEF, who will ensure our continued viability. This, of course, will raise our costs for memberships.

2) If we do not have a sufficient, active board or people to take up the responsibilities, but we do have adequate cash on hand to ensure we can meet our financial obligations for the next year, we can renew our lease and continue making our special place available to members until the end of 2018. Our financial obligations include insurance, caretaker, utilities, port-a-potties, maintenance, lease, taxes, etc.

3) If we have neither an active board nor finances, we cannot expect our lease to be renewed for 2018. (We hope and believe this is unlikely.)

In light of the critical roll the board plays, a motion was approved to give active board

members a \$100 discount on their membership renewal. It is important all members realize we cannot and will not continue to be a viable organization without additional support **PRIOR TO THE END OF THIS YEAR**. If you are interested in helping, please reply to this email or contact a current board member.

Membership Changes

The board also approved changes in memberships effective upon the expiration of your current membership:

All new or renewed LEF memberships will expire on May 31.

All memberships are for either a single person or a couple (ie. no single memberships)

Regular memberships will be \$500; the discount for Associate Memberships will increase to \$150, making an Associate Membership \$350.

NUTs memberships will continue to be available for \$95. The cost will increase \$75 each year upon renewal.

Until the end of this year, current members may renew their membership to expire May 31, 2019* for only \$350 (associates: \$250). If you wait until your membership expires, the renewal cost will be \$500 (associates: \$350) and the expiration will be May 31, 2019*.

As a special to non-members who have followed our activities , the board decided to offer memberships expiring May 31, 2019 (18 months) for only \$400 (associates: \$300).

* Memberships expiring after 12/31/18 are subject to our ability to renew our lease in December, 2018. In the event we are unable to sign a lease for 2018, any money paid between now and the end of this year can be refunded.