

TRUMBULL NATURE COMMISSION

Tuesday, October 16, 2012
Trumbull Nature & Arts Center
7:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Items: Call Meeting to Order
Public Comments – 15 Minutes
Acceptance of September minutes
Treasurer’s Report
Programs
- Endangered species campaign/programs
- Fall hike with Historical Society
- School field trips
- Eagle Scout project 10/20
Relocation update
501c3 Update
Website and media
Old Business
New Business
Adjournment

Attending: Commission: Chairman Pam Georgas, Kevin Malone, Clerk: Sheryl Baumann, Guest: Scot Kerr, Kate Bruzinski of the Trumbull Conservation Commission

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comments

Kate Bruzinski spoke about her interest in helping with the New England Cottontail Education Program.

Minutes Approval

No action taken, due to the lack of a quorum.

Treasurer’s Report

No report given.

Programs

Fall programs 2012 update

Endangered species campaign/programs

In February/March 2013, the Nature Commission will launch a campaign to educate the community on the New England Cottontail, an endangered species indigenous to the local area. Local community and business groups will be approached in regards to their participation in this initiative. The campaign will have several components, including:

- Education: The Nature Commission plans on presenting an educational program to Trumbull's 3rd grade students. A grant has been applied for to pay an instructor to conduct this program.
- Scavenger Hunt: An art workshop will be held in which children will decorate small bunny sculptures. These sculptures would then be placed in participating stores as part of a community-wide "search for the cottontail" scavenger hunt and educational program. Volunteer(s) are needed to solicit participating businesses.
- Community Educational Event: An event would be held to educate the community on the New England Cottontail and the habitat it needs to survive and flourish. The Commission intends to distribute winterberry plants at the event. Winterberry plants serve as a suitable habitat for the rabbit.

Fall Hike with Historical Society

The Nature Commission and The Historical Society are holding a fall hike on October 27. Kevin Malone will help to lead the walk, as representative of the Nature Commission.

School Field Trips

Beth Ferenz will be the field trip coordinator. Teachers are looking to book field trips for May, 2013. The Nature Commission is working with the teachers to determine tentative dates.

Eagle Scout Project on 10/20

On October 20th, An Eagle Scout candidate, along with a group of 20 scouts, will be creating an outdoor classroom area, with picnic tables at TNAC.

Website and Media

Rasa Mali will be taking over as website administrator.

Old Business

No discussion was held.

New Business

- A Ridgefield, CT Junior High School student won a grant to conduct a public awareness campaign on lyme disease and invasive species. She contacted the Nature Commission to seek its participation in her project.
- A volunteer will be needed to handle program registrations during the winter.

Adjournment

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Submitted by Sheryl Baumann, Nature Commission Clerk