

TRUMBULL NATURE COMMISSION

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Trumbull Nature & Arts Center

7:00 pm

Present: Chairman, Pam Georgas; Commissioners Frank Grazynski, Kevin Malone and Bonnie Lindsay

Absent: Ruth Mohr

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

Public Comments

No public comment.

Past Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Grazynski, seconded by Mr. Malone, to approve the minutes of May 13, 2014 as written. Ms. Lindsay did not vote as she was not present at the meeting; approved unanimously by the other commissioners.

Status of Commission and 501c3 Agreements with the Town

Mrs. Georgas noted there is no additional movement on this subject. She stated the focus should be to complete the agreement with the town and she will request a meeting be set with the town attorney and Mr. Malone to discuss the terms of the agreement. It was recommended that the 501c3 write a draft agreement which can be discussed at this meeting which should include a request for five year building and land use as well as basic maintenance and other in-kind services. This draft should also include those areas the 501c3 will be responsible to cover. Once this agreement is set, it will be brought to the Town Council.

Commission's Role

Mrs. Georgas noted this has been unresolved.

501c3 Progress/Update

Mr. Malone noted they are working on various projects and distributing duties among the members as well as looking for additional volunteers for programs.

United Health Care/Unilever Volunteer Days

Mr. Malone noted both organizations will be doing projects at the Nature Center in July.

Building and Grounds Projects

Mr. Malone noted he and other volunteers have cleaned up the front of the building by weeding the flower garden. Weeding of the butterfly garden needs to be done and pea gravel put down.

Community Garden

Mrs. Georgas noted the garden has been planted and she will be requesting a donation of some mulch to put down to prevent weeds.

Youth Group

Discussion was held regarding the youth group that has been working with the Nature Center on various activities. They are very active and enthusiastic. Mrs. Georgas noted that a volunteer from Trumbull has been working with her to create a structure for the group which includes such topics as leadership, outreach, and education. The group will meet with this volunteer to further the goals under each topic but Mrs. Georgas felt the group was moving towards leadership opportunities which would include implementation of programs and educational opportunities for the community. She noted a press release is set for distribution this week regarding this group to inform the community of their work, increase teen interest and encourage participation. It was felt that the youth group is the future of the Nature Center as they have a passion in the field, they are working on leadership skills and they are becoming very involved in community activities. Mrs. Georgas noted the group would be applying for grants for various projects. Various avenues were discussed that could provide this group with information and opportunities.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Mr. Grazynski, seconded by Mr. Malone, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk

These minutes are considered a draft until approved at the next meeting of the Trumbull Nature Commission.