

Trumbull Nature Commission – June 15, 2016

Trumbull Nature Commission
Wednesday, June 15, 2016
7:00 pm
Long Hill Conference Room

Present: Chairman, Nancy Gottschalk; Vice-Chairman Barbara Pezzullo, Commissioners Nancy Wentworth and Jeffrey Kunkel

Also Present: TNAC Board Chair Kevin Malone

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Gottschalk, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Past Minutes

Motion was made by Mrs. Wentworth to approve the minutes of April 20, 2016, seconded by Mrs. Pezzullo. Mr. Malone noted one change – his title is Board Chair not director. The minutes were approved unanimously as amended.

Report from Board of Directors of TNAC

Mr. Malone presented his report for Promotions and Marketing and TNAC Programs. Copy is attached to the minutes. He discussed upcoming field trips and noted there was a total of 718 students for the curriculum field trips which was more than last year. The Directors have hired a new instructor and they are contacting another individual who may be interested.

He asked the Commission to contact the town regarding a problem with a window in the center.

Mr. Malone noted the key holder name needs to be changed to Mr. Kunkel, who would be called in the event of an alarm at the building. This has been requested in the past and will be followed up with the town to make the appropriate changes.

Deloitte had 38 volunteers for impact day. They did landscaping throughout the property. Sun Products helped with hanging the xylophone and other repairs. A tick prevention garden was planted behind the playground as an Eagle Scout project. This has plants that deter ticks in the area. Another Eagle Scout will be widening the walking trails around the pond and the stream.

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Old Business

Discussion was held regarding policies for the Nature Center. The Commission is aware of several policies that need to be written with the help of the Patrons. It was agreed that the Patrons and the Commission would write down ideas for the policies and procedures. Commissioners should forward their work to Mrs. Gottschalk who will forward them to the Patrons for consolidation and review.

New Business

Mrs. Gottschalk noted the budget for 2016-2017 only includes four meetings of the Commission. She had asked for eight meetings but understands why the town approved a total of four. With policies and procedures to be written, it was agreed to hold longer meetings each time so that business of the Commission could be covered appropriately. It was agreed to hold meetings on September 21, October 19, January 18 and April 19 starting at 6:30 pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion as made by Mrs. Wentworth, seconded by Mrs. Pezzullo, to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk

Patrons of TNAC May and June 2016
Promotion and Marketing, and Programs Report

Promotion and Marketing

I. Promotion

- a. May/June eNewsletter
 - i. Emailed eNewsletter to 425 subscribers
 - ii. eNewsletter contained links to register for spring and summer programs
- b. Publicity
 - i. May and June Programs were submitted to the Trumbull Times (print and online), CT Parent print, Macaroni Kids (online) Mommy Poppins (online)
 - ii. The programs have been promoted on TNAC's Facebook page and the Trumbull Moms Facebook group
- c. Press Releases
 - i. Long Hill Garden Club Butterfly Garden Initiative Press Release was sent to the Trumbull Times (see page 2)



- ii. CT Trails Hike was published on Trumbull Times online

Programs

I. May and June Programs

- a. May 22: Fishing 101: There were 6 participants
- b. June 4: Introduction to Archery: There were 16 participants
- c. June 4: CT Trails Day Hike: There were 23 participants.

II. Upcoming Programs

- a. June 18: Adventures in Edible Plant Foraging: Currently 7 registrants
- b. July 1: Great Firefly Roundup: Currently 43 registrants
- c. July 5-8: Artsmart: Currently 5 registrants
- d. July 11 – 15: Artsmart: Currently 3 registrants
- e. July 30: Stargazing: Currently 29 registrants

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PRESS RELEASE

Giving Butterflies a Home at the Trumbull Nature & Arts Center

Beautiful, beneficial butterflies are coming to town! The Long Hill Garden Club is in the process of refurbishing and maintaining the Trumbull Nature & Arts Center's butterfly garden. In addition to this project, the Garden Club will be working to have the garden certified by Monarch Watch as an official Monarch Waystation.

The Long Hill Garden Club will be creating a pollinator habitat for monarchs by planting milkweed and other nectar sources that will attract monarch butterflies. Due to habitat loss and other factors, the monarch population has collapsed in recent decades. Creating habitats with native plants will encourage population growth of this important pollinator species.

The Patrons of the Trumbull Nature & Arts Center thanks the Long Hill Garden Club for its butterfly garden initiative. The public is welcome to come view the progress of the garden this spring and summer, at the Trumbull Nature & Arts Center, 7115 Main Street, Trumbull.

*Pictured in the photo are Long Hill Garden Club Members:
L-R, (front row) Virginia Evitts, Marilyn Burkhart and Walter Callagy
(back row) Linda Kentosh, John Williamson and Kathy Downs.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE