

Trumbull Nature Commission – October 19, 2016

Trumbull Nature Commission
Wednesday, October 19, 2016
6:30 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 6:30 pm by Chairman Gottschalk followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Past Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Kunkel to approve the minutes of September 21, 2016 as written. Seconded by Mrs. Pezzullo and approved unanimously.

Report from Board of Directors of TNAC

Mr. Malone distributed his monthly report. He noted the tree has been removed and the window glass and front door have been repaired. He is currently working with the IT Department to correct a problem with the telephone system.

Old Business

1. Update of Policies – Mr. Malone presented an updated draft of the policy and procedure for the use of the Nature Center for non-TNAC sponsored activities. Additional recommendations and/or changes were made by the Commission. Mr. Malone will update the policy and procedure and distribute to the Commission for discussion at the next meeting in January 2017.
2. All items covered in Mr. Malone's report.
3. FOI Informational Meeting on 10/14/2016 – Discussion was held regarding the FOT meeting held last week. Mrs. Pezzullo reviewed some of the topics reviewed including Executive Sessions, emails, videotaping of meetings, telephone conversations, when gatherings of commission/board members is considered a meeting and must be noticed, site walks, etc.

New Business

No new business.

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Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Nature Commission will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Mr. Kunkel to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm.
Seconded by Mrs. Wentworth and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk

Consulting Director's Report - October 2016

Building and Grounds:

- The Kennedy Center Cleaning Group cleaned the building on October 4
- Sun Products held a volunteer outing on October 7
- Unilever held a community action day on October 13
- Technology department is working to correct the phone line switch which causes the phone not to ring in the center. Voicemail is unaffected.
- May request donation or in-kind services of all groups that use TNAC building and grounds to hold meetings

Fall Programming:

- Fossils program was very successful, with 10 registrants
- SLECA's Haunted Trails program has been cancelled, due to rain
- October 23 Geocaching has approximately 25 registrants to date

Field Trips:

- Google form created and is in use with "before" and "after" field trip questions
- Tashua Grade 4 field trip scheduled for June 2017
- Daniels Farm Grade 4 field trip scheduled for May 2017
- Frenchtown Grade 3 showing an interest in scheduling
- Winthrop School Soil Investigation field trip held on October 17
- Waltersville field trip scheduled for May 2017
- Field trip acquisition is ongoing

Fundraising:

- Met with Senator Moore on October 5th, she will look into grant opportunities
- Appeal Letter to be sent to newsletter subscribers by end of year
- Fundraising schedule in process

Scouts:

- October 22nd Girl Scouts Naturalist Badge Day has 87 registrants
- Cub Scout programs being re-vamped to reflect current badge requirements

Town-related Issues:

- Determination must be made as to which groups have permission to use the TNAC building and grounds