

TRUMBULL NATURE COMMISSION

Monday, June 20, 2011
Trumbull Nature & Arts Center
6:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Items: Call Meeting to Order
Public Comments – 15 Minutes
Acceptance of May minutes
Treasurer's report
501c3 and Town
Website, marketing & media
2011 Programs & Events updates

- Summer/fall program schedule
- Fall Habitat school field trip
- New instructors/training
- TLT/TNAC partner, habitat programming
- Scout programs/Eagle Scout projects
- Student Art Show at Town Hall (July)
- Library Display Case (July)

Old Business
New Business
Adjournment

Attending: Commission: Chairman Pam Georgas, Frank Grazynski, Bonnie Lindsay, Kevin Malone. Guests: Meg Barnes, Erin Johannesan, Senator Anthony Musto, Thu Tran, June Meeting Clerk: Sheryl Baumann

Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m.

Public Comments

Senator Musto provided his expertise as a consultant to the 501c3, and answered questions regarding copyright issues.

May Minutes

No vote was taken due to no quorum in May.

Treasurer's Report

Bonnie and Meg reviewed accounts. Frank moved on the motion and Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

501c3 and Town

Meg TNAC is now a 501c3.

Website, marketing and media

Meg Barnes informed the Commission that there is now a new website for TNAC, with the URL: patronsoftnac.com. There was a discussion of the transfer of the old domain name to the new website.

2011 Programs & Events

Summer/fall program schedule

- Mike Paoletto will be doing a bee/honey harvesting program.
- Little Green Thumb Program:
 - o Thu Tran reviewed the status of The Little Green Thumb Program. Thu created a binder for each child and sponsor. Each binder contains children's rainy-day activities, along with a "mommy's appendix" with gardening/nature information.
 - o Thu discussed the July 6th Abraham Nichols Children's Garden Sponsor Event. The event will be from 4p.m. – 5p.m. Thu requested that TNAC bring a snack item for the event, either store bought or baked.
- Pam stated that TNAC will be allowed to put a brass plaque with sponsor's names on it on the wood kiosk at the Nichols Garden.

Field Trips and Programs

A general discussion was held, with no specific program approved. In July, the Commission will listen to submitted ideas.

New Instructors/Training

Erin Johannesan is available to create programs for TNAC. Pam discussed the possibility of Erin running the Nature Badges programs for Scouting. A page could be added to the website dedicated to scout programs. Erin suggested that TNAC put together kits to bring to school classrooms. Thu suggested a planting program.

Scout programs/Eagle Scout Projects

Brian Diamond, an Eagle Scout candidate, will be setting up nature and history themed letterboxes/geocaches in Trumbull parks. Karin King is the TNAC Advisor for Brian. John Lauria will be a resource for the history component of the boxes.

Student Art Show at Town Hall (July)

Children's artwork from TNAC programs will be displayed in Town Hall for 6 weeks starting in July. The Arts Commission will make an open house for the display.

Library Display Case (July)

TNAC has the use of the display case in the main library for the month of July. Trumbull Park Rangers will lend materials to use in the display.

Fall Hike

There will be a hike in the fall, led by John Russell and John Lauria.

Relocation Update

Subcommittee to meet on next steps to consider park-land as a future location.

Old Business

No discussion was held.

New Business

- Meg Barnes reported that the Long Hill Garden Club requested that she hold a class at TNAC on mudpie troughs. Bonnie moved on the motion and Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.
- A discussion was held regarding the request by John Massari for the use of the TNAC property as a location for a DEP Safety Program. The matter was tabled until further information can be provided.

Adjournment

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:17p.m.

Submitted by Sheryl Baumann, June Meeting Nature Commission Clerk