

Trumbull Nature Commission Virtual Meeting
Tuesday, March 16, 2021
7:00 pm

Present: Chairman Emily Shufrin, Commissioners Jack Boynton and Jeffrey Kunkel

Also Present: Sheryl Baumann and Kevin Malone from TNAC

Absent: Helen Nordvall

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mrs. Shufrin followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Past Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Kunkel to approve the minutes of December 15, 2020 as written. Seconded by Mr. Boynton and approved unanimously.

TNAC Q&A

Mrs. Baumann reviewed her report to the Commission. The complete TNAC update was posted on line with the meeting agenda. Mrs. Shufrin congratulated Mrs. Baumann on the Amazon grant and for the presentation of many good programs.

Old Business

A meeting was held with the Town regarding the following:

1. It is possible to remove the retaining wall but a timeline was not established at the meeting.
2. A meeting will be held during the summer to discuss other needs on the property. Mr. George Estrada would like to develop a five year plan for the property which would include a new roof and ADA ramp.
3. Mr. Dmitri Paris discussed the slope of the driveway that needs to be addressed.
4. Several trees on the property will be removed.
5. A chipper will be used for removal of invasive plants and trees on the property.

Mr. Estrada and Mr. Paris will be contacted within the next two months regarding these projects.

Mrs. Baumann noted Liz Doherty, the Trumbull Public Schools K-8 Science Director, informed her that the Grade 2 field trips would move forward and for this year, would be conducted on school property instead of at the Nature Center. All programs will be held outside.

New Business

March 16, 2021 Board of Finance Hearing Review – Mrs. Baumann summarized the meeting noting she provided an update on the programs, including the Grade 2 field trips, and donations received. She also emphasized the publicity the TNAC has received lately through Channel 8 and the State website. Mrs.

Shufrin noted the budget was discussed directly with the First Selectman earlier noting it should be similar to last year. Members of the Board of Finance were very complimentary of the programs at the Center. She noted the Henkel grant would be used for technology and schools programs; Amazon would be used for general operations. Mrs. Bauman is hopeful that the TNAC would be eligible for funding through the American Rescue Plan.

Mr. Kunkel noted this would be his last meeting as a Commissioner. He has other commitments that prevent him from being an active member. Mr. Kunkel was thanked by the Commissioners and the TNAC Patrons for his service on the Commission over the past several years.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Mr. Kunkel to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 pm. Seconded by Mr. Boynton and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk