

TNC Committee Meeting Agenda 2-7-2019

In attendance: Elizabeth Moorehead, Pam O'Neal, Emily Isbruchs, Sandy Breck, Beth Caldwell, Colin Brooks, Holly Zechar, Chrissy Flaherty

Thurston being awarded a water quality award for pond pollution prevention - March 28th, 2019 - Elizabeth will attend; Elizabeth will share letter with Emily for the newsletter

Updates:

1. New School Policy regarding doors - unlocked as of 2/7, but supposed to be locked going forward. If becomes issue, Elizabeth can open her home to meetings.
2. J's Tree Trimming Service project on wood pile completed - major woodpile chipped end of January. Removed because it was becoming a safety issue/ risk. Also removed tree that was an issue. Increased cost by \$200 - total about \$ 1,225.00.
3. Broom Hockey and Cocoa Event Success! (est. 70+ people) - huge success!! Lots of people on the pond and benches, enjoying cocoa. Will do again next year.
4. Wildflower purchase for OHAC/TNC pond project approved - applied for grant with Wildflower Assoc. - Jim Vallem working on this - anticipate receiving the grant, pool paying the majority - anticipated cost \$ 100. Grasses and wildflowers to discourage mess of Canadian geese.
5. Last Kiosk fully installed
6. Community wide communications up with Emily leadership - mass email list- everyone receiving emails and happy with communication.
7. Website - teacher willingly to help set-up - Emily also offered to help set up. Board voted to move forward with new website for TNC. Thurstonnaturecenter.info and buy URL - Emily would like to set up with WordPress, and will discuss with Colin within a week.
8. Ice Safety Program (free)- minor issues with Clague and Thurston students going on pond with open water; Elizabeth discussed with principals - launched ice safety program at Thurston; Clague principal handling on his end. Eliz put together safety tips and distributed.
9. Native Grass Banner ordered (paid by Heron Huddle Fund) - shows full depth of native grasses in MI. Bought in conjunction with Green Team @ Thurston.
10. Michigan DNR information brochures/packets requested (free)

Current issues needing addressed:

1. Willows - One fell on OHAC side of the pond; plan needs to be made.
2. AA District planting trees around Thurston playground, and TNC has been invited to discussion with district to get trees we want in that area.
3. Dog Poop- removed bin in the Fall. Possibly trash bin near Clague/ Bluett to be picked up each week. Possibly two trash bins, two locations. Been brought to Elizabeth that it is becoming an issue. Elizabeth will check with District about coordination for trash bin - start with one at Georgetown, then go from there.

4. Sustaining Ann Arbor Grant opportunity- eligible if can incorporate kids in nature center.
5. Bridge Safety due to ice - signs supposed to be coming from the district to post on the bridge from the snow/ ice.

Upcoming Eagle Scout Projects

1. Christopher rain garden - Oak Hickory Ridge
2. Aiden boardwalk - NE corner
3. Peter shed- paint inside/ build shelves in shed
4. Hazma- unknown

Finance update-Holly

Spring Planning

1. Earth Week Mary Manthey - work day in conjunction.
2. Spring Wildflower Walk Beth Caldwell
3. Herps Michael Tucker
4. Centennial Tree Tour - working with member of the community; will possibly get plaques for the Centennial trees. Any tree over 100 years old.
5. Kiosk Signs Siri Ibarguen

New business - recognition of the donors - Emily asked about status - Praveena working on this, Elizabeth will touch base with Praveena for an update.

PTO Meet & Greet - went well, asked how Thurston PTO could get involved. Earth Week good time to strengthen the connection between PTO and TNC.

5K race/ fundraiser for Thurston in May - Jamie Tomacello (sp?) - race will go through the pond area.

Meeting adjourned 7:40pm