

## TNC Committee Meeting Agenda 3-7-2019

In attendance: Elizabeth Moorehead, Pam O'Neal, Emily Eisbruch, Sandy Breck, Siri Ibarguen, Holly Zechar, Jim Vallem, Mary Manthey

### Updates:

1. Earth Week 4/22-26 – begun planning – various grades doing each of these areas: exploring senses; vegetable garden; butterfly gardens; water quality; rain gardens. Looking for volunteers from school parents, but also may need some volunteers for advance of Earth Week. Nicole is the lead for the vegetable gardens.
2. Trash Bin Update – Elizabeth talked with city – TNC or district can't get bin – will get a trash bin through OHAC pool- will go by Georgetown entrance/ kiosk. Approved by OHAC pool board.
3. Bridge safety signs – completed – attached to pole on bridge, very nice, on both sides. Jim proposed hand rails go all the way to the end; non-slip tread/traction on North end of the bridge. Elizabeth will ask district about these additions to the bridge.
4. Eagle Scout Project: Oak Hickory/ Woodland rain garden by Christopher - approved
5. Kiosk signs – Siri - \$ 15.00/ outdoor banner material sign; chatty/ elementary school/ middle school level information about ponds to display in kiosks
6. 5K in TNC – cancelled
7. Salamander and Frog Toad Kickoff – laminated signs from state DNR – going up at Thurston & TNC kiosks
8. Signs going up about tick issues at Thurston & TNC kiosks
9. Tree health – high wind damage – tree is visibly cracked. Need to continue to think about how to handle damaged trees/ liabilities to the trail/ pond.
10. Steward's report – Jim – waterline project – sewing 52 native species – medium to tall; December sew norther half of oak savannah – 40 species – short; Prairie paid by school district, Oak Savannah paid by grant received two years ago. Hoping to do work where trees cut out, east of the prairie – estimated \$ 2700 – school district agreed to paid but waiting on funds. Replace grasses, plants and some signs destroyed. Brush pile chipped in January. OHAC buffer strip next to shore line – designed – OHAC agreed to paid for it, but Jim also applying for another grant. OHAC volunteers agreed to do planting – all native plants. Prevent run off from parking lot and geese waste/ mess. Spice bush plants for rain garden above oak hickory woods. Ordered lead plant -school purchased banner – of life size plants with roots. Burns scheduled for prairie this Spring. Need to have a work day this month to clean out debris in prairie, put in prairie court. Will put a notice in school newsletter, website and Facebook about work day date - TBD.
11. Therapy goats for events – Detroit based community farm. Professional YouTuber and could help with social media.

12. Awards- Water Resource Commissioner Office. Two Reps: Beth and Jim to accept award Washtenaw County Excellence Award – clean streams program – outstanding water quality program Elizabeth will present award to Thurston at Heron Huddle during Earth Week.

13. Brochures on invasive and sensory tour – looking for someone to assist Michelle who has taken on this project

14. Parent volunteered to catalog all scraps of information about entire history of TNC – digitizing all information from binder.

15. Updating bulletin board in main lobby of Thurston and kiosks

16. New TNC website at <https://thurstonnaturecenter.info/> - now available! Made in WordPress – content manage system – good for multiple people to do edits – easier for committee to load information. Set up a time with Emily about how to make updates. Steward reports and committee meeting minutes will be posted on the website.

17. “Donor Wall” recognition as promised in 2015 for those who donated to pool restoration – Praveena will be at April meeting to give more information. \$ 500 donated from Toyota Foundation for Donor Wall project.

Meeting adjourned: 7:45pm