

## May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 TNC Committee Meeting

In attendance: Holly Zechar, Emily Eisbruch, Avi Eisbruch, Michael Tucker, Elizabeth Morehead, Sandy Breck, Beth Caldwell, Pam O'Neal

### Updates

1. Water Quality Award is loaded to the AAPS District News Page. Sent out special email to all parents in the school district. Elizabeth presented award to Thurston.
2. Vote for donor wall recognition passed with committee members Manthey, Caldwell, Commiskey, Bunnell, Tucker, C. Flaherty, Vallem, O'Neal, Morehead voting in favor. Praveena has the components and will be installed into the kiosk.
3. New website [www.thurstonnaturecenter.info](http://www.thurstonnaturecenter.info) up and running - thank-you Emily!
4. TNC based email addresses through Bluehost have been created for TNC Chair and Treasurer. [treasurer@thurstonnaturecenter.info](mailto:treasurer@thurstonnaturecenter.info) and [chair@thurstonnaturecenter.info](mailto:chair@thurstonnaturecenter.info)
5. AAPS has agreed to chip and leave wood on Prairie Ct. contacts are Emile Lauzzana and Amber Strong.
6. Application for 2019 Community Partners for Clean Streams Mini-grant has been submitted for consideration by Jim Vallem.
7. Donation page has been added to the website [www.thurstonnaturecenter.info/donations/](http://www.thurstonnaturecenter.info/donations/)
8. Earth Week schedule had a couple changes. Exploring with sensed Preschool/ Young 5's, and also some vegetable gardening. K/1<sup>st</sup> grades- all vegetable garden. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade butterflies - Sandy and Kat (sp?) helped assist - butterfly seed bombs - fantastic - very well received by the kids! 3<sup>rd</sup> grades - water monitoring and bugs. Tallied and put into program by Mary Manthey - all enjoyed! 4<sup>th</sup> grades - trees and invasives, great time with pruning shears. 5<sup>th</sup> grades - rain gardens and tour in Nature Center.
9. Controlled Burns- Tucker and Vallem. One controlled burn done for this year.
10. Eagle scout projects - 5/17 & 5/18 - Christopher - putting in rain garden

Financial Update- Holly Zechar - waiting on donation from Toyota. Slightly more donations vs. expenses. \$ 5,226.00 brought in/ \$ 4K expenses so far this year.

### Business at hand:

1. Invitation to include Communications/Outreach Coordinator to the Committee as a voting member. Need quorum - call for a vote in June.
2. Invitation to vote Emily Eisbruch as Communications/Outreach Coordinator
3. Calendar of Events for 2019-2020 school year. Continue with Broom Hockey, evening walks and flower walks, also workdays. Committee members think about any additional events to discuss at June meeting.

4. Responsibilities to PTO. new information on how we work with Thurston PTO. Elizabeth met with PTOC about how PTO processes work. Per that discussion, became clear TNC classified technically like all other groups run through Thurston PTO. Thurston Nature Center Committee would like to submit for approval from Thurston Elementary School PTO an amendment to the bylaws for the following:

Thurston Nature Center will be permitted to act according to its vision statement, land and water use policies, bylaws and so forth, which fit the scope and magnitude of functions without needing pre-approval from the PTO.

Thurston Nature Center maintains the PTO will be made aware of ongoings in the TNC as we do with our financial account and status.

Secondly,

The TNC would like to request an annually budgeted donation from the PTO to assist in the stewardship of the Nature Center for the amount of \$500.00 matching many other donations we receive.

TNC will vote at June meeting on submitting amendments to PTO executive board.

5. Workdays on trail maintenance - need another workday after pond dries out after recent rain storms - will discuss further at June meeting.
6. Trash Pickup-32gal container \$25.00 one-time fee. Collection cost from container \$17.25/mo billed quarterly. IF dumped into OHAC or AAPS bins then no extra cost incurred.  
Committee will continue to discuss issue at June meeting.
7. Committee Positions up at end of next year: Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Stewards, Alum, 2 At Large. Please be thinking on whether or not you will want to continue in your current places on the committee as next school year (2019-2020) will be the time to recruit.