

Thurston Nature Center Committee

Thursday June 6th, 2019 at 6:30pm @ Thurston School Media Center

In attendance: Elizabeth Morehead; Mary Manthey; Holley Zechar; Avi Eisbruch, Emily Eisbruch; Michael Tucker; Beth Caldwell; Pam O'Neal; Frank Commiskey

Updates:

- Christopher's Rain Garden Project on the North side of the pond is complete.
- Wildflower Walks were successful. Great feedback, very much appreciated, good attendance. Saw birds, trees, morel mushrooms and wildflowers.
- Two wood chip piles have arrived for trail maintenance.
- TNC submitted a request to be included in the budget of the PTO for \$500
- Elam, Eagle Scout will be doing a project on trail maintenance with wood cords and chipping along the east side of the Pond Circle Trail this fall.
- Hazma has submitted his project proposal for current benches needing replaced as well as two new benches on the west side of the TNC and will begin working on them.
- Aiden, Eagle Scout will be tackling brush under willows for his project.
- Start forming a sub-group within in TNC about sump pump drainage/ excess water saturating oak roots in pond area.
- Planted two willows, with sign, noting they are the property of Thurston Nature Center.
Thank-you to Emily & Avi!

Finances:

- Monies from the fall auction will not be secured to the TNC as promised.
- Toyota \$500 donation is accounted for and will be transferred over to TNC – still waiting for transfer.
- Received donation from Thurston Players \$1,000
- Biggest expense – seeds & plantings; donor wall about \$ 500.00; budget \$2-2,500.00 for controlled burns next year.

Planning:

- Summer projects
 - OHAC pond frontage strip – grasses and wildflowers planting with Girl Scouts went successfully!
 - Butterfly/Rain Garden extension – Kat Adams & Sandy Break, stewards, leading the project.
 - Watermain Restoration Project- possible rain gardens created in the future, Eagle Scout projects
 - AAPS culvert cleanup-by AAPS District
 - Water Valve guidelines created for future reference.
 - Emily will create insert for kiosks about TNC website/ QR code.
 - Possible Summer meeting in August @ Frank's house or OHAC - TBD

- 2019-2020 school year calendar- would like to continue with some of the same events as this past school year, next year. Possible Birder event with coffee & donuts – early 5:30am/early/ Mid May to see greatest amount of birds. OHMA Fall Festival Sunday 10/6 – possible pond/ TNC events for that date. Possible Summer family events at the pond – TBD. Holly available to do a dog event next year at the pond.

Order of business:

- Request for Emily to become communication outreach coordinator with voting rights.
 - Board voted and passed to accept Emily as Communication Outreach Coordinator with voting rights
- Request for amendments to the TNC and PTO bylaws.
 - Board voted and passed/approved presenting amendments to the TNC & Thurston PTO bylaws, to the Thurston PTO for approval.