

TNC COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday 3/3/2022 @6:30pm

Attendance: Colin Brooks, Beth Caldwell, Emily Eisbruch, Elizabeth Morehead, Pam O'Neal, Keith Philips, Michael Tucker, Jim Vallem, Holly Zechar

Finance Update:

Just under \$ 20,000 in bank. No additional donations recently. Tax information sent.

Plant Stewards request: Annual budget for clearing/restoration supplies & materials such as burns, chemicals, replacement saw/cutter blades, seeds and plants (maybe up to \$3000) instead of getting approvals for each individual item - makes it easy and more efficient to do planning.

Motion made to add to the annual budget line item for up to \$3,000.00 for clearing/restoration supplies and materials and will be reviewed by the board every year.

Board voted and approved the motion.

OHMHA is hoping to again hold a ZOOM version of the Community Forum that the TNC have sponsored annually over the years. OHMHA hoping the Nature Center Organization will participate as they have in the past. Event will be March 20th @ 4pm via Zoom.

UMICH project proposal -Akari Komura is imagining this project as a one-day drop-in meditation event with a focus on cultivating a communal listening experience for the participants. She is hoping this project to be more about the experience of the entire nature center park. The park visitors would freely walk around the pond where 3 - 4 musicians would be spread out along the edges of the pond circle trail at a certain hour or moments throughout the day. Participants would be invited to take a "soundwalk" which will engage listening meditation by becoming aware of the surrounding sonic environment. This soundwalk / listening meditation will be guided by a form of text prompts that may be handed out to visitors in physical printouts or may be accessible via a QR code to a mobile website as a potential option. The prompts will consist of directions that invite listening to certain elements in the soundscape, sensing them intuitively, or vocalizing sounds in response to the elements e.g. birds, water in the pond, wind, etc. It is my ultimate hope to facilitate a space for people to find energetic connections with nature and embodied awareness towards overall well-being.

Proposed dates June 27 - July 1.

Board approved moving forward with the project – more details to come.

Waterford Press is offering a stock-up of folding pocket guides to nature observation and outdoor recreation for spring special exclusively to Nature Centers by March 20th. Minimum order is 20 guides (you can mix and match titles).

Board discussed creating own, specific to TNC brochure with walking tour, native foliage and bird list – have actual physical brochures and QR code with all information posted to kiosks.

AAPS UPDATE from JASON BING -" We are working on the scoping documents to bid out this berm repair with our professional consultants. The stormwater infrastructure is connected the way it was intended now and has been repaired - we needed to televise/video these pipes to make sure this was done properly, and we did so."

Spring Burns

- Hope to get the low area west of the berm burned by Plantwise (the portion that is not submerged or newly-sowed from the drain repair project). Using funds already approved for last year but unable to do so.
- Oak/Hickory Woods due this fall or spring 2023, also by Plantwise (Estimate \$1100-1200, needs approval).
 - We can do Prairie/North Prairie and Oak Savanna ourselves.

Spring-Summer Projects

- a. Trail maintenance-cut back growth near trails
- b. Restoration of waterfront on north side of pond, led by Praveena and Amy, replanting done by Clague Girl Scout Troop
- c. Proposal for school to plant trees/shrubs in cleared woods (drain repair area). Area was seeded with woodland plants, but area is now in full sun. Michael and Elizabeth have a preliminary plant list, but have not finalized due to possibility of more work in area.
- d. Request to purchase "Keep Off" signs. \$175 for weather-proof signs (Same material as our "Burn" signs), plus pressure treated stakes and zip-ties (around \$40) = around \$215.
Motion made to purchase Keep Off signs for total around \$ 215.00
Board voted and approved.

Communications will be going out to OHMHA and TNC tomorrow.
Mary Manthey will be working on Earth Day activities with Thurston kids in TNC.

Meeting is adjourned @ 7:33pm
Next Meeting Thursday 4/7/22