

Thurston Nature Center Committee Meeting
May 15, 2025
7pm at Thurston Media Center

Attendance: Mary Manthey, Michael Tucker, Kristen Cella, Beth Caldwell, Pam O'Neal, Tricia Oana, Amy Creten, Smita Malpani

1. Thurston PTO proposed that the PTO and TNC share in costs for Thurston Earth Week activities in 2026. Motion made for TNCC to donate \$ 500.00 for Earth Week activities. Motion was approved.

2. Mary Manthey provided the committee with a recap of Thurston Earth Week activities. Mary will provide a recap for the TNCC newsletter, first needs to be approved by Thurston principal for distribution.

3. Elizabeth Morehead and Mary Manthey will be spearheading the TNC Summer Fun Series, which includes family events in June, July and August. Motion made for TNCC to donate \$ 500.00 for TNC Summer Fun Series. Motion was approved.

4. Thurston PTO has requested from the Safe Routes a clear and safe walking path. This map will be shared with the TNCC to distribute to the community, and post in kiosks.

5. Land Steward reports:

Mike Tucker: Transplants from the rain garden seem to be doing well. (10)
American Plums were replanted around the pond. Mike will be ordering shrubs from the MDOT plant sale, and will keep TNCC posted on funds needed/ budgeted for this purchase.

Jim Vallem: Sowed oats cover crop in the damaged area of the savanna. Gilbane has ordered some native grass and flower seed for the same area, and Jim will get them sowed the week of the 18th. Jim will kill the grass east of the savanna to expand into the area where two of the oaks were moved the same week. Date TBD when AAPS can move the shed and kios.

6. Bylaws will be reviewed over the summer, and recommendations will be presented to the TNCC in September for a vote.