

TRUMBULL NATURE COMMISSION

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

Trumbull Nature & Arts Center

7:00pm

Present: Chairman, Pam Georgas; Commissioners Frank Grazynski and Kevin Malone. Guests: Cheryl Baumann and Rasa Malish

Absent: Bonnie Lindsay

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm.

Programs

1. Summer programs were reviewed. It was noted there are still openings in some of the programs for August. A minimum of six participants is required.
2. School Field Trips – Discussions are being held with the school curriculum director for science to develop updated programs for the second grade field trips. There have been curriculum changes and the changes should be incorporated into the program. It was suggested that neighboring towns should be contacted so that the program could be expanded.
3. Birthday Parties – Fee is \$15 per participant which includes a craft. Pictures will be placed on the website; release forms are available. It was noted that pictures from other activities should be put on the website also.
4. Lighthouse Camp – Final plans are being made. This camp will include a walkabout done by Mr. Malone; s'mores making by two volunteers; a presentation by Horizon Wings which will be approximately one hour (1pm) and an art project. Camp will run from 11am-3pm. Eighty participants have signed up which include elementary and some middle school students. It was suggested that each participant have a plastic bag to hold everything they will be taking home from the camp.

Fall 2013 Seasonal Programs

Program dates are being worked on. It was suggested that program titles be published with dates to be determined so there is awareness in the community.

United Healthcare Community Impact Day

Mr. Malone noted approximately 15-20 volunteers have signed up to participate for a four hour work day. Suggestions for projects included weeding around the property, clearing around the pond and then making a path around the pond and clearing invasive species. With regard to the path around the pond, it was suggested to place mulch down once it is completed. Donations will be investigated.

New Business

1. Status of the garage – not approved.
2. Discussion was held regarding locking the building and the rangers' responsibilities in seeing it is properly locked in the evening. It was noted that the building should be locked after the programs by the instructors. The rangers will be given a schedule of events so that they can check the property to make sure it has been secured.
3. Building cleaning was discussed. It was noted that after each event, the facility is cleaned but there should be a thorough cleaning done after each season of programs. This will be scheduled.
4. Improved signage—Ms. Georgas has already spoken with the sign maker who had some ideas on how to put some additional information on the sign at the road and on the door to the nature center.
5. Ms. Rasa forwarded an email requesting information on what programs the nature center had for Cadette Girl Scouts. It was suggested that a representative should attend an organizational meeting for the Girl Scouts to see what programs they might be looking for and how the nature center staff could help the organization.

Past Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Grazynski, seconded by Ms. Georgas to approve the minutes of June 11, 2013 as written. Unanimous.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk