

## TRUMBULL NATURE COMMISSION

Tuesday, October 18, 2011  
Trumbull Nature & Arts Center  
7:00 pm

### Meeting Minutes

**Agenda Items:** Call Meeting to Order  
Public Comments – 15 Minutes  
Acceptance of September minutes  
Treasurer’s Report  
501c3 and town  
Website, marketing & media  
Grants  
2011 Programs & Events  
- Fall Hike  
- Spring Programs  
- Scout Programs  
- School Programs  
Old Business  
New Business  
Adjournment

**Attending:** Commission: Chairman Pam Georgas, Kevin Malone, Bonnie Lindsay, Frank Graszynski, Ruth Mohr. Patrons of TNAC 501c3: Meg Barnes, president. Clerk: Sheryl Baumann

Meeting called to order at 7:15 p.m.

#### **Public Comments**

No public comments.

#### **Minutes Approval**

September minutes were approved as presented. Bonnie moved on the motion, Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

#### **Treasurer’s Report**

None Given

#### **501c3 and town**

Meg reported that Patrons of TNAC has a total of \$19,527.21 in its accounts.

#### **Website, marketing and media**

Meg Barnes informed the Commission that the interface tools of patronsoftnac.com were temporarily unable to make changes. The site itself was not adversely affected. Bonnie asked if there was a way that registrants on patronsoftnac would be forced to complete required registration forms when they submit payment for classes. Meg stated that she

may add a line on the site that, when payments are made, tells registrants to “make sure you register”.

### **Grants**

Pam discussed the Hillcrest Outreach Project – a wildlife garden project to be planted in the front courtyard of Hillcrest Middle School, developed in cooperation with TNAC, the Conservation Committee, and Hillcrest. TNAC has applied for an Environmental Grassroots Grant for funding, and will be looking for other funding.

Kevin Malone is going to write up a proposal for an ecochallenge grant. TNAC will look into costs once we have this. This would be a recycling initiative conducted with Hillcrest students, concentrating on the recycling of everyday hazardous materials, such as batteries and electronics.

### **2011 Programs & Events**

#### **Fall Valley Hike**

On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, a TNAC and Trumbull Historical Society hike will be held. Frank Grazynski of TNAC will lead the hike for families with young children. Karin King volunteered to help. A wildlife rehabilitator will also help with the walk.

#### **Spring Programs**

- Pam informed the Commission that Alison Spitzer spoke with her regarding her interest in conducting spring programs in the areas of music, theater, and arts for special needs children. Ms. Spitzer’s classes are in creative dramatics and creative self-expression for pre-K, and kindergarten aged children. Pam stated that TNAC may be able to apply for a grant from organizations that provide funds for programs for children with special needs.
- Pam stated that TNAC would continue the Fall/Winter Nature Series programs for the spring programs.
- An instructor is needed for the Little Green Thumbs Ambassador program.
- Gardening programs may be added to the spring program schedule.
- Ruth will lead a butterfly program in the summer.

#### **Scout Programs**

Karin King matched TNAC programs with Scout badge requirements.

#### **School Programs**

Requests have been made for pre-k through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade programs. Instructors are needed.

#### **Old Business**

No discussion was held.

## **New Business**

### **Relocation Petition**

A petition is being circulated via e-mail to garner signatures in support of relocating to a more centralized location within the Park system. There will be an article on Trumbull Patch regarding this.

### **Abraham Nichols Children's Garden**

The Little Green Thumb Children's Garden has been mostly cleared of non-organic materials.

### **Geocaching**

TNAC initiated this project that has now been completed by an Eagle Scout candidate. Geocache boxes have been placed in several Trumbull parks.

### **Adjournment**

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by Sheryl Baumann, October Meeting Nature Commission Clerk