Trumbull Nature Commission Virtual Meeting
Tuesday, June 16, 2026
7:00 pm

ZOOM

Agenda

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments

Approve Minutes – March 17, 2026

TNAC Q&A

1. Commission Questions/Comments Regarding Written Director Report

Old Business

1. Recruitment of New Commissioners

New Business

Next Meeting – September 15, 2026

Adjournment

Trumbull Nature Commission Regular Meeting
Jun 16, 2026 7:00 PM
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84433052390?pwd=CE0l9EWRQg3s8EOTjGnH6pM5tAyevv.1
Webinar ID: 844 3305 2390
Password: 512508

Join by telephone: (646) 931-3860 / Webinar ID: 844 3305 2390

Patrons of the Trumbull Nature & Arts Center
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 110438, Trumbull, CT 06611
Street Address: 7115 Main Street, Trumbull, CT 06611

Subject: Report to Nature Commission: June 2026

TNAC Building and Grounds

- Building
  - Town of Trumbull has not yet repaired the broken and missing flashing and gutters
  - Building interior
    - Earlier this year, the Patrons installed a TV monitor to be used for presentations in the classroom
    - Small bathroom
      - Henkel volunteers painted the small bathroom
    - Minor issues have occurred and have been resolved
      - Power outage
        - Repaired in one day by a Town contractor
      - Toilet leak in basement
        - Repaired in one day by a Town contractor
    - Phase 1 of the interactive educational display project has completed the initial design phase
      - A pencil rendering is currently on the TNAC east wall
      - The painting is being created
      - Final installation is being planned for September 2026

- Grounds
  - The "Vine Team", an offshoot of the Conservation Commission held an invasives removal day on the TNAC grounds on May 30, 2026
  - The Patrons continue to maintain the trails, meadow, forest, and riparian habitats
  - A snapping turtle laid her eggs in one of our activity areas (mud mountain soil)
    - The area was cordoned off with educational signage and caution tape to protect the eggs

Town of Trumbull – TNAC Building Feasibility Study and Preliminary Design

- TNAC is in the 2026 – 2030 5-year capital plan in the column, "CY 2027 Capital Plan PLANNED"
  - This is a placeholder amount
    - The placeholder is included, as certain grant stipulations require an amount to be considered for funding

Corporate and Community Partnerships

- 4-21-26 CompHealth
  - 8 volunteers planted blueberry bushes
- 4-29-26 Unilever
  - 8 volunteers: Trail clearing, weeding around TNAC sign, clear out sunflower garden, lawn repair (parking area)

- 5-8-25 Henkel (Trumbull office) volunteer day at TNAC
    - 12 to 15 volunteers spread mulch to the right of the butterfly garden and behind the playground, planted flowers by both TNAC signs, weeded sunflower garden painted small bathroom
- We anticipate that M&T Bank will be holding a volunteer day at TNAC this year
- Volunteers from the Kennedy Collective's vocational program have restarted their visits to TNAC
    - They work on small projects, such as assembling booklets that we use for animal track rubbings at community events, e.g. the Trumbull Farmers' Market
- TNAC had a table at the Trumbull Farmers' Market opening day, and will be there again on September 10
- TNAC will have a tent at Trumbull Day
- TNAC was asked to participate in the Make-a-Wish Family Reunion on Saturday, July 18th from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at The Wishing Place in Trumbull
    - The Patrons will most likely volunteer with a nature craft activity
- Trumbull Mall partnership
    - The Patrons met with representatives of the Trumbull Mall to determine ways to both increase foot traffic at the mall and bring visitors to TNAC
        - A back-to-school program is being considered for this August's tax-free week

Fundraising

- State of CT FY27 Legislative allocation
    - The Patrons expect to receive the second $50,000 of the two-year biennial grant
        - Allocations to be determined after notification
- Aquarion Award
    - The Patrons were honored to receive the 2026 Aquarion Environmental Champion Award in the Non-profits category
        - The award comes with a $5,000 donation
            - We received an award statuette and a certificate from Senator Blumenthal at the award ceremony at Beardsley Zoo on June 6, 2026
                - Members of the Patrons attended, along with Olia Yelner who represented the Nature Commission
- Connecticut Outdoor and Environmental Education Association
    - The Patrons were awarded a $1,400 mini-grant for 2026-27 to provide environmental education programs to underserved students
- The Patrons applied for:
    - Neighborhood Assistant Grant funding
        - On June 1, 2026, the Trumbull Town Council approved the Patrons' proposal
            - The proposal is for Phase 2 of the educational display project
            - The proposal now goes to the State of CT DRS for approval for a corporate tax credit
                - If approved, qualified corporations could fund the proposal and receive CT state credit
                    - Notification in September 2026

Environmental Education and Family Programs

- To date in 2026, the Patrons provided programs to:
    - 4,641 educational and family program participants
        - 2,078 from Trumbull
        - 1,519 from Bridgeport
        - The balance included residents in surrounding communities

Patrons of TNAC Nonprofit Update

- Arts Subcommittee
    - The Patrons have formed an arts subcommittee to explore the possibility of increasing TNAC's arts presence
        - Patrons and community members are providing input and ideas
- Publicity
    - TNAC activities are being included in the First Selectman's newsletter
    - The Patrons actively post on social media

Submitted by:
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