

# Trumbull Nature Commission – January 14, 2020

**Trumbull Nature Commission  
Tuesday, January 14, 2020  
7:00 pm  
Trumbull Nature & Arts Center**

**Present:** Chairman Emily Shufrin, Commissioners Jeffrey Kunkel, Jack Boynton and Helen Nordvall

Also Present: Sheryl Baumann and Kevin Malone from TNAC

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Public Comment**

None.

## **Past Minutes**

Motion was made by Mr. Kunkel to approve the minutes of June 19, 2019 as written. Seconded by Mrs. Boynton and approved unanimously.

## **Old Business**

1. Property Improvements – One light in the front of the building is working. It is unknown why the others are not. The flashing has not been fixed. Although it is mainly cosmetic, there would potentially be a problem with water getting into that area. Ms. Nordvall and Mr. Kunkel have both called the town regarding these repairs.
2. Insurance – Mrs. Shufrin noted that the town has been notified of the completed pavilion. It has been identified as part of the property and is covered under insurance. Mrs. Shufrin will confirm the playground is covered also.
3. Meeting Dates for 2020 – The following meeting dates were set for 2020:
  - a. March 17, 2020
  - b. June 16, 2020
  - c. September 15, 2020
  - d. December 15, 2020

## **New Business**

1. The Annual Report for the Nature Commission was submitted by Mrs. Shufrin to the First Selectman.
2. The Annual Meeting of the TNAC Board will be held January 18, 2020 at 11 am. Commissioners are invited to attend.
3. The budget hearing meeting has been set for February 7. Mrs. Shufrin will contact the First Selectman's office regarding a pre-budget meeting with Mrs. Tesoro.
4. Septic System Maintenance – Mrs. Shufrin noted the system's location has been identified but it has not been serviced since the purchase of the property in 2005. Since they have multiple programs at the Center, Mrs. Shufrin will check to see if it needs to be serviced as one of the

## Trumbull Nature Commission – January 14, 2020

bathrooms does have an odor. This was previously reported to the Town. Mrs. Shufin will check with the Town on the maintenance plan.

5. Elections – election of officers was held as follows:

a. Mr. Kunkel nominated Mrs. Shufrin as Chairman, seconded by Mr. Boynton

b. Mrs. Shufrin nominated Mr. Kunkel for Vice-Chairman, seconded by Ms. Nordvall

Mr. Kunkle motioned to close the nominations, seconded by Mrs. Shufrin. Slate of officers was approved unanimously.

### **TNAC Report**

Mrs. Baumann provided her report to the Commissioners for review. A copy is attached to the minutes. She noted there was an increase in field trips and school visits.

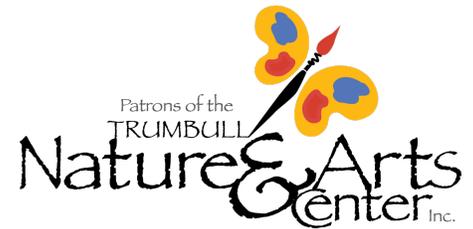
### **Adjournment**

Mr. Kunkel moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm. Seconded by Mr. Boynton and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall  
Clerk

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



December 1, 2019

Subject: Report to Nature Commission: December 2019

**Field Trips:**

- January – November 2019, there were 59 field trips and in-school visits for a total of 3, 441 students. Of that total, 1,523 were Trumbull students.
- Scheduling is proceeding for Winter and Spring 2020.

**Programs:**

- January – November 2019, there were 34 programs, serving 519 participants.
- Planning is in process for winter and spring 2020.

**Fundraising/Corporate and Community Involvement:**

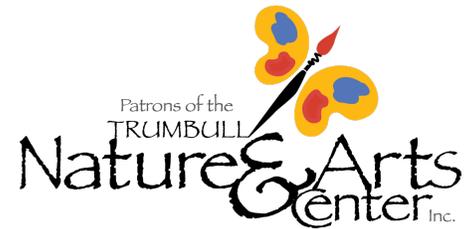
- Unilever employees volunteered at TNAC on October 22.
  - o Volunteers put together benches/workstations and raked leaves from beneath the maple tree.
- People's United Bank is planning on holding an employee volunteer day at TNAC in spring of 2020.
- Mallet Foundation donated \$2,500.
- The Patrons met with Trayvonn Diaz, outreach assistant to Senator Chris Murphy. A discussion was held regarding federal grant opportunities, and the possibility of Senator Murphy visiting TNAC in the spring to give a talk on an environmental topic.
- Trumbull Business Appreciation Breakfast:
  - o The Patrons recommended Henkel for a Corporate Success Award.
    - Henkel was presented with the award at the breakfast.
    - Henkel commended TNAC for its environmental education outreach.
- Trumbull Community Women (TCW):
  - o TCW has offered to underwrite a TNAC program next spring.
    - The program may be an Earth Day education program. 2020 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day, and the overarching theme is climate change.
- The Patrons are working with Trumbull's Sustainable CT ad hoc commission in its efforts to make the Town of Trumbull a Certified Sustainable Community.
  - o For more info, visit: <https://sustainablect.org/>

**TNAC Building and Grounds:**

- Motion sensor lights
  - o Two of the three motion sensor lights have been located on the front of the building have been repaired.
- Flashing at back of building
  - o The missing roof edging has not yet been repaired.
- Outdoor Nature's Classroom Sunshade Pavilion

**Patrons of the Trumbull Nature & Art Center, Inc.**  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 110438, Trumbull, CT 06611  
Street Address: 7115 Main St., Trumbull, CT 06611  
web: [trumbullnatureandartscenter.org](http://trumbullnatureandartscenter.org) | email: [patronsoftnac@gmail.com](mailto:patronsoftnac@gmail.com)

The Patrons of the Trumbull Nature & Arts Center is a 501(c)3 organization



- The Town signed off on the project, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on October 11.
- Eagle Scout Projects
  - Rehabilitation of all trails that are not grass-covered is nearly complete.
    - Unused mulch has been offered free to the public.
  - A Little Free Library is being planned for the butterfly garden.
- Wifi
  - No update from the Town.
- New question: TNAC Septic System.
  - As a prerequisite for the building of the new Outdoor Nature's Classroom, the town required a map of the septic system location on the TNAC property.
    - The Patrons paid for this map (\$500).
      - The paperwork was submitted to the Town, as required.
  - There is no record of the septic system being cleaned out since the purchase of the property by the Town of Trumbull.
  - Should the Town be made aware of this, and action taken?

Submitted by:  
Sheryl Baumann  
Consulting Director  
Patrons of the Trumbull Nature & Arts Center  
Phone: 203-452-4421  
Email: patronsoftnacboard@gmail.com