Trumbull Nature Commission

TOWN OF TRUMBULL
CONNECTICUT

Town Hall
5866 Main Street
Trumbull, Connecticut 06611

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

Present: Chairman Jack Boynton, Karen Laracca, Emily Shufrin and Olia Yelner

Also Present: Sheryl Baumann from TNAC

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Mr. Boynton followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment
No public comment.

Approval of Minutes
Mrs. Shufrin motioned to approve the minutes of March 17, 2026. Seconded by Ms. Laracca. Approved with one abstention from Ms. Laracca.

TNAC Director's Report
Ms. Baumann highlighted the following from her report:

1. TNAC was awarded the 2026 Aquarion Environmental Champion Award in the Non-profits category. There was a ceremony on June 6 at the Beardsley Zoo where they received their award and certificate. Ms. Yelner attended the ceremony to represent the Commission. Announcements of the award are being sent, a press release was done and it will be on social media.
2. TNAC was awarded the Connecticut Outdoor and Environmental Education Association mini-grant of $1,400 to provide programs to underserved students in the next school year.
3. Applied for the Neighborhood Assistant Grant Funding. This was approved by Town Council and waiting for the Department of Revenue Services for approval; waiting to see what corporations would fund the proposal. This would be for Phase 2 of the educational interactive exhibit. Phase 1 is due to be completed in September.
4. Planning summer visits; 12 Lighthouse locations, funded by a private donor, scheduled for programs in July and August.
5. Blueberry bushes were planted by CompHealth.

6. Henkel had a volunteer day. Submitted a grant for additional funding for projects including the high school project and the interactive display.
7. Participating in the Make-A-Wish 40th Anniversary event. Commissioners are welcome to volunteer with them.
8. Mall is looking to partner with TNAC; looking to have a table as they do not have capacity to use a store front.
9. Participated in the Farmer's Market on opening day and will be there again the first Thursday in September.
10. Participating in Trumbull Day; baseball caps will be distributed to anyone who joins TNAC at the event.
11. Henkel painted the small bathroom; room was updated.
12. Two repairs were made by the Town involving a leak in the basement and a power outage.
13. Flashing has not been addressed. It is on the list for repairs to be completed.
14. The Vine Team from the Conservation Commission removed invasive plants on the property. Removal included the multi-floral rose that covered the trails.
15. A snapping turtle laid her eggs in one of the activity areas; the area was roped off and used as a lesson to students attending a program at that time.

Ms. Yelner noted the Beardsley Zoo awards ceremony was great as well as Ms. Baumann's speech. She included a great description of what happens at TNAC.

Old Business

1. Recruitment of New Commissioners – Ms. Baumann contacted some individuals as potential commissioners. Mr. Boynton would like to see a larger Commission to make sure they can move forward and keep TNAC up and running.

New Business

No New Business.

Next Meeting

September 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm by ZOOM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk