

Lawrence Nature Center Minutes August 8, 2011

Attendance:

Linda T, Anne, John, Teresita, Helen, Rick, Steve, Carol, Sue, Dave,

Guests: Scout Delia Monken and family, Giovanna Tomat-Kelly

Scout Projects:

- Delia walked the trails with Rick Dutko and they selected a tree along the creek that will be suitable for a wood duck box. She has bought cedar lumber, and hopes to build the box and install by early September. It will have a protective guard and needs to be cleaned annually.
- Teresita reports that Garrett Falk had a Cheeseburger Cheeseburger fundraiser and will host a spaghetti dinner in the near future.

Property:

- Teresita and Steve have received calls from the local universities to do community service. Dates for trail clean up and removal of invasive species are being worked out, and the dates will be posted.
- Meadow management was discussed. Invasive trees are getting larger. Steve will speak with Public Works to see if we should cut them down now, or if the brush hog can handle it in November when the meadow is mowed. The merits of grid style paths vs. curly maze style paths were discussed. Children like the curved paths and circles; teachers liked the multiple options of grids. No decision was made.

New Programs:

- Upcoming school holidays and celebrations were discussed. Sue and Linda may do a program on Columbus Day October 10th 10-11:30 for school age children. The teacher convention dates were also discussed as possible program dates, November 10, 11. Other ideas were to tie in with National Earth Science Week Oct. 9-15 and October 13th, Fossil Day. No decisions were finalized.
- Giovanna said that there is a Fungus Festival coming up, and she will find out when and where. The Mycological Society is willing to host a lecture at the nature center. She will find out more information and get back to the Board.

Purchases:

- The board discussed the purchase of a laptop computer and external memory that will stay at the center to store pictures, history, programs, and be used for education. The board approved the expenditure of up to \$1000, and requested that John work with Steve to purchase it through the township fund.

Communication:

- The g mail account was discussed. Sue said she did not mind checking it frequently to monitor communication with the LNC, and forward to the appropriate person. The addition of another volunteer to the committee who is familiar with social media was discussed, and hopefully will be added in the future.

SAVE:

- SAVE President Michael Baker is making box turtle cages to protect turtle eggs in the meadow. He would also like to do a memorial for Richard Guadagno who died in 9/11. More info to come. Giovanna would like to also be a SAVE representative at the LNC monthly meetings.

Family Night:

- The summer program has been immensely popular and well attended. August 9th Art Night had 66 in attendance. Hosts are asked when they are making program introductions, to include a message to keep quiet when the teacher is talking. Adult conversations on the fringe are too loud and intrusive.

Post Meeting Discussion: Rick will organize a work day in the fall to transplant native plants in the front garden to more appropriate places as the garden is too full. TBA