



LAWRENCE Nature Center Education Committee Meeting

DATE: Monday, October 24, 2011

TIME: 7:00 PM

LOCATION: LAWRENCE NATURE CENTER, 481 Drexel Avenue, Lawrence Township, NJ 08648

RSVP: To Sue Herrmann at: lawrencenaturecenter@gmail.com

LNC Board members, LTPS teachers & administrators, and anyone in the general public interested in science & nature education for our community, may attend. Agenda topics will include future programs, speakers, teacher resources, STEM education (Science-Technology-Engineering-Math), LNC brochures, and more.

Please visit the Lawrence Nature Center Web site for more information:
www.lawrencenaturecenter.net

MEETING MINUTES: October 24, 2011

ATTENDANCE

Rick Dutko, Sue Herrmann, Linda Townsend, Heidi D'Ascoli, Tahirih Smith - SL, Richard Kelly, Virginia Tomat, Lauren Madden – TCNJ, Jennifer Jacoppo (Excused absence: Allison Kohler – AmeriCorps)

OLD BUSINESS

1. Sept 26, 2011 Minutes were approved with minor changes (Stellaluna is all one word)
2. Discussion was held regarding centralization of ALL LNC photos. We will use flash drives and disks to download nature center pictures obtained from all board members and public who send us photos. Question was raised by Virginia as to the possibility of linking her Web site/blog with mycology photos and miscellaneous photos taken during Girl Scout visits to LNC and Drexel Woods.
3. The committee suggested that we send any photos to the Lawrence Nature Center Gmail address lawrencenaturecenter@gmail.com. An LNC officer who knows the password will add them to the "Google page" for photos:
<https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/myphotos>.



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4. Naturalist, Rick Dutko, shared that he continues to work with Eldridge Park School kindergarten teachers and hopes to meet with them soon. Rick is also working on a Herptile Board lesson plan. April and October are definite months to see red salamanders in Drexel Woods and a good time to have students at Lawrence Nature Center.
5. The Lawrence Nature Center Power Point presentation is in progress – perhaps complete by November 28
6. Dr Lauren Madden and three TCNJ science education students will accompany the EPS K- students and teachers through Drexel Woods to LNC and back. Sixty students are expected for our first big school walk / LNC visit on November 1, 2011.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Sue Herrmann announced a brand **new Lawrence Nature Center Public Profile on LinkedIn:**
<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/lawrence-nature-center-nj/38/331/3a8>
 - Designed - by Sue H and other FLNC Officers
 - Contacts – all FLNC Board members, please sign up and support your LNC LinkedIn site
 - Recommendations – the public and non-board members can write a recommendation for an LNC program they attended + liked.
2. **Brochures** – Education Committee members discussed and reviewed various sample brochures from other nature centers in NJ, PA, and NY. The group decided that Lawrence Nature Center needs a “generic brochure” listing annual events by the month. In addition, the committee suggested a “menu of programs” brochure to include subject + age. Organizations could request a certain program for their community group or school. Other details need discussion.



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3. New programs, speakers, topics, and calendar dates:

- (a) Linda Townsend discussed the possibility of having “Philadelphia Zoo on Wheels” at Lawrence Nature Center. Her pre-school had Experienced the fun provided by this outside vendor. Estimated cost for LNC is \$245 for 45 minutes. We are aiming for the date of March 24, 2012. FLNC are considering a request for donations at the door. Other possible special programs for hire are Mad Science or Lizard Guy.
- (b) Lawrence Shade Tree Committee is interested in hiking in Drexel Woods and wants to do a joint program with LNC. November 8 was chosen the date to begin identification of trees on the LNC property. Then the hike with Naturalist, Rick Dutko, will be January 2012, and again in the spring. In addition, we discussed making a video during the walk to post on the LNC Web site.

4. Green Maps Grant from Sustainable Jersey:

- (a) Tahirih Smith from Sustainable Lawrence, explained that there is a grant for four towns= Lawrence Township, Princeton, Hillsboro, and Montgomery from Sustainable JERSEY. We would work together to gather information we can share on the Web site www.greenmaps.com.
- (b) Lawrence Nature Center was asked to share facts about LNC, Drexel Woods, trails, tree species, plant and flower species, bird species, programs and events, and other details, as requested.

5. Rick Dutko showed us four beautiful **brochure boxes** he designed and built for Lawrence Nature Center. They are constructed of Treks. (harder than wood) The boxes will be located at the Drexel Woods trailheads.

6. STEM Education – Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics:

STEM education was not discussed because no teachers, administrators or STEM experts were present at the meeting. We hope that several can attend the November meeting to help us develop a list of appropriate educational topics.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:30 pm



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IMPORTANT DATES:

November 8 – 2-4 pm - LNC Friends + Shade Tree members joint event for identification of trees on 481 Drexel Ave LNC property.

November 21 – 10am – Noon – NO Fracking Meeting/ Vote at Patriots Theatre, War Memorial, Trenton, NJ

November 28 – 7pm – LNC Education Committee meeting, 481 Drexel Ave, Lawrence Twp, NJ 08648

November 30 – 7pm – Green Map Meeting at Lawrence Police Department and Court Room Building, Police Classroom, Lawrence Road.

December 14 – 7pm - Friends of Lawrence Nature Center meeting and Pot Luck Supper (Organized by Board)

*** NO DECEMBER MEETING FOR EDUCATION COMMITTEE ***