

Minutes
Nature Preserve Committee
Monday, July 10, 2017

Members present: Marge Eberz, Dave Horne, Peter LaMontagne, Tom Price, Halsey White, Sue Minnetti, Jo Schuler, Taylor Thompson, Betsey Klinger

Members absent: Bob Binkley

- I. **Approval of minutes from April 10, May 8, and June 12 meetings**
Motion was made by Sue to approve above minutes, Marge seconded the motion, all approved.

II. **Old Business**

- A. Maintenance tasks
1. Main entrance bed
 2. Wood chips
 3. Meadow plantings

Committee agreed to meet one evening to work on the unfinished tasks. Dave will notify Tom when he plans to do the planting. Tom will notify the group of a time to spread the wood chips.

- B. Pedestrian crossing striping on Landis Mill Road
Tom spoke with Sam who assured him that the project is on the “to do list”.
- C. DVU studies
Nothing further to report
- D. Trail cameras
The community garden is done using the cameras; they will be moved to the Preserve.
- E. Scout project
Halsey reported that he spoke with the scout leader and they expect to begin the project before the end of July.
- F. Miller properties / DCNR Grant
Nothing new to report
- G. Tree ID plates
Nothing new to report
- H. Groner Fund residual / Miriam’s stock shares
Nothing new to report
- I. Addendum/update to Strategic Plan

Nothing new to report

J. Pop-up Park (Preserve involvement)

1. Plants for Preserve
2. Information table

Tom has sent Nick at Gino's Nursery a list of native plants for birds that would be desirable for the Pop-up Park. The dates are September 15-17th. We have committed to an information table about the Nature Preserve.

III. **Deferred Items**

- A. Orphans Court ruling on uses of Groner funds
- B. Chant's Woods
 1. Boundary signs
 2. Dedication stone
- C. Preserve map and brochure
- D. Brush mower purchase

IV. **New Business**

A. Budget update

Updated copy was distributed. Jo asked if another dog waste station, identical to the one at the main entrance, could be placed at the Landis Mill Road entrance. Halsey made a motion for an expenditure up to \$500.00 for the station, Sue seconded the motion. All approved. Peter will request Sam to place the order.

B. Updated plant list

Ann Rhoads has provided Tom with an updated list of plant species she's catalogued in the Preserve, which Tom shared with the committee. Marge and Dave will update their list of species planted in Miriam's Meadow.

C. Pollinator Habitat registrations

1. Xerxes Society
2. Penn State Cooperative Extension

Tom presented information on above and recommended that we consider registering the Preserve. All agreed that both registrations would be a positive move. The Xerxes Society registration is \$25.00, which Tom will take care of. The Penn State registration is \$40.00 and requires the completion of a six-page application form. Marge offered to complete that application. The Penn State registration would put the Preserve into a data base. Discussion ensued regarding the sign placement for both registrations.

D. Fall work days

1. Sept. 23
2. Oct.

3. Nov.

Committee agreed upon the following work days: September 23, October 14 and November 4.

E. Fall maintenance / restoration plans

1. Areas of focus
 - a. Riparian area (trees)
 - b. Unit 1 clearing (shrubs)
2. Needed prep work
 - a. Clearing in riparian area (contact Lentzscaping)
 - b. Mowing in Unit 1
3. Nursery visits
 - a. Octoraro
 - b. Archewild

Tom will contact Lentzscaping to obtain a quote for clearing designated sections of the riparian area. The necessary mowing in Unit I can be done by John Emmell.

Visits to above nurseries will be planned before our next meeting.

F. Membership vacancy

The death of Jim Chant has created a committee vacancy. Tom reported that Bob Binkley has shared that Monday night meetings are increasingly difficult for him.

G. Jo questioned if there may be a group at Del Val that may be interested in volunteering in the Preserve. Tom reported that professors have already been invited to use the Preserve. The “Project Earth” club, which has helped us on workdays in the past, may be a possibility. Taylor volunteered to contact that club’s advisor.

Halsey made a motion to adjourn, Dave seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 14th