

DRAYTON PLAINS NATURE CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019, 6:30PM
DRAYTON PLAINS NATURE CENTER, 2125 DENBY DRIVE, WATERFORD, MI 48329

- I. Call to order at 6:35pm
- II. Introduction of Members, Staff and Guests
 - Board Members Present: Jim Zampol, Murray Day, Karen Joliat, Gerard Couture, Terri Chapdelaine, Aubrey Golden
 - Others Present: Alison Swanson, Annie Humphrey, Cathy Wesley and Mike Warner
 - Excused: Linda Zabik
- III. Review of May 2019 minutes. Motion to approve – Karen Joliat. Seconded – Terri Chapdelaine. Motion carried.
- IV. Reports
 - a. **Financial**-Alison Swanson
 - i. Written financial report provided
 - b. **Parks and Recreation** – Alison Swanson
 - i. Summer camps went well. We had wonderful staff. We will evaluate the number of camps offered for 2020.
 - ii. After September 29, the building will not be staffed until the spring. Caretaker and staff will care for the animals inside of the building. Annie has done a great job keeping the displays updated and offering different drop in activities during the summer.
 - iii. Six Rivers Land Conservancy has informed me that Danielle Devlin has left and the new Stewardship Manager assigned to the Nature Center will be Ian Abelson. He will attend an upcoming meeting to meet everyone.
 - iv. Woodchips need to be spread either at the Nature Center or another park. If the parks and recreation department will not be using them it was suggested that they be offered to neighbors.
 - c. **Caretaker** – Not present. No written report provided.
 - d. **Friends of the DPNC**- Terri Chapdelaine & Murray Day
 - i. Terri hosted the Oakland Audubon Society – Young Birders at the Nature Center on September 14.
 - ii. Consideration being given towards replacing the Hatchery Road letter board sign.
 - iii. Halloween Hayrides – October 11th and 12th. Weekly planning meetings are being held.
 - e. **Staff** – Annie Humphrey
 - i. Brought back the touch table and guess what's in the box interactive display. Added a display about the dangers of poaching. Had a leaf rubbing station.
 - ii. Average number of visitors is 7 per day.
 - f. **School District** – Not present. No written report provided.
- V. Old Business
 - a. Update on covered bridge repair – Have not obtained additional quoted necessary to proceed with this project. Discussion about a “community build” project to get the roofing done.
- VI. Round Table & New Business
 - a. Jim – Ponds 7 and 8 were drained by DNR. Alison indicated that Todd Somers, DNR, knows we need them refilled for the Halloween Hayride event. Discussion about the Cooley Elementary new retention pond and how run off might affect the Nature Center. The walkway off the south side of the parking lot needs to be monitored, the drain culverts under the walkway that were cleared out in the spring need to be cleared periodically to prevent blockage.
 - b. Gerard – Discussion about trails at Elizabeth Lake Woods Park. Discussion about Fish Hatchery Park and Log Cabin Days.
 - c. Aubrey– would like to discuss the 1-2 year goals that are on the Nature Center’s Goals List and how to achieve them.
 - d. Terri – Trails have several trees down. Alison will follow-up with Corwin the Caretaker to remove these.
 - e. Murray – Halloween Hayrides: will need 80 bales of straw, tractor and hay wagon from Hess-Hathaway Park on or before 10/9 or 10/10, for the event. Alison to coordinate with park staff. Spindles on observation deck are missing and need to be replaced.
 - f. Karen – There was interest from Chris Ward, Oakland County Commissioner’s Office in pursuing a kayak launch at the Nature Center. Discussion on placement and requirements if/when this is constructed: place near covered bridge, but erosion control must be managed in conjunction with this project.
- VII. Meeting Adjourned: 7:54pm