



# LNC EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

## MINUTES revised

TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2012, 7:00 PM

LAWRENCE NATURE CENTER 481 DREXEL AVE, LAWRENCE TWP, NJ 08648

- I. Meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm
- II. Attendance: Rick Dutko, Janet Kane, Linda Townsend, and Sue Herrmann. Linda Burroughs was excused due to illness; Dave Bosted was out of town; Allison Kohler also had an excused absence.
- III. Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes – Approved with minor revisions.
- IV. **Chairperson's Report**
  - A. Committee Visitors – summary given by Sue Herrmann.
    1. Laura Bentivegna, Silver GS project, video for LNC Web site proposed. Laura interviewed most exhibitors at the SL EXPO. She interviewed Sue Herrmann about the activities at Lawrence Nature Center.
    2. Michael Baicker, SAVE President, LHS Organic Garden update – Letters of support were written from the LNC Education Committee to Mr. Jonathan Dauber, LHS Principal; and from FLNC to Mr. Bo Hitchcock, Director of Facilities and Property for LTPS.
  - B. Summary of LNC Education programs/events held since 2/28/12: Feb 15 cancelled due to speaker's illness; Feb 20 – "I Love Nature + Books" – Lawrence Day School attended (**34 total** = 3 and 4 yr olds, 3 teachers, 1 parent, plus 8 older children); March 17 – Sustainable Lawrence Home and Energy EXPO 2012: Anne Demarais was at D+R Greenway table; Sue Herrmann and Rick Dutko were at LNC table; Linda Townsend, Teresita Bastides-Heron, Tahirih + Brett Smith, and Pam Mount assisted with Sustainable Lawrence tables and SL EXPO organization. Total # attendees and vendors will be released later.
  - C. STEM – Rick, Sue, Pepper Evans, Tahirih + Brett Smith attended the Advisory Committee meeting for "STEM" (Science-Technology-Engineering-Math) at LHS



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on March 6, 2012. Help was obtained for our naturalist for the Herptile Board Surveys at LNC. Six or seven LHS students were interested in participating.

### **V. Naturalist's Report**

- A. Report presented at FLNC meeting on 3/14/2012
- B. LNC Educational Field Trip on 3/30/12 – Rick Dutko is the trip organizer \*  
PLEASE RSVP
- C. Tree identification + Arbor Day Walk - Rick Dutko and Janet Kane
- D. Update – Greenway Fund

### **VI. Old Business**

- A. Status of office furniture donations: desk, credenza; three display cases.  
Consider LNC back room used as “Nature Room?”
- B. Status of Lawrence Nature Center DECK – Comments to Steve Groeger by  
3/30/12 – Architect’s questionnaire was attached to agenda.

### **VII. New Business**

- A. Ben Franklin School Science Fair on 3/29/12 – ANY LNC education table volunteers? (Flyer at [www.ltps.org](http://www.ltps.org) go to Schools - BFS)
- B. Upcoming events – Summer Family Nights (July + Aug) – speaker names + program dates NEEDED ASAP – OPEN dates are July 10, 17, 24, 31 and Aug 7, 14, 21, 28. Thanks for volunteering to teach our community!
- C. SPECIAL REQUESTS for Discussion:
  - 1. **Roberta Hunter at LES** is looking for an open evening @ LNC during Earth Week to host a “Get Out and Play” for LES students + families. Discussion resulted in the need for more details: Risk of parking cars and children running in the road, not enough parking for LES families,



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children running around after dark, calendar date = Earth Week is already very busy. Sue will contact Roberta again.

2. **Huck Fairman**, freelance writer for *The Packet*, wants to write an article about Lawrence Nature Center (We need to recommend a topic?)
3. **BEGIN to DOCUMENT your 2012 hours of volunteer service to Lawrence Nature Center:** All FLNC volunteers, board members and officers, SAVE members, scouts, college groups, community members. This is needed for grant applications when LNC becomes non-profit 501(c) (3) IRS status. We also need a baseline of “volunteer hours” for 2011, if you can re-construct one. Attendee #s at education programs are available from Teresita and Rick.

VIII. LNC 2012 Calendar and new program flyers \* NEW DATE: April 21, 2012 at 2:30 pm – Book Reading about Lyme Disease Recovery Out of the Woods by Katina I. Makris

IX. Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm



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## Lawrence Nature Center Deck – background information questions/topics

### **1. Use of Deck**

What is primary use of deck?

What other functions might the deck serve?

How many people will use the deck at one time (capacity)?

Will the deck require additional space for outdoor amenities other than seating (ex. Grill or fire-pit).

### **2. Site Features**

What site features must remain? (areaway to basement windows? Landscaping?)

### **3. Materials**

Is natural wood or recycled composite material preferred? The Township has indicated the preference for recycled material for ease of maintenance .

If additional hardscape is provided (patio or path), what materials would be preferred? (crushed stone, stone, brick, etc.)

### **4. Deck Design elements**

Guardrails

Seating

Area of covering (small pergola or gazebo?)

Planter boxes (in place of guardrails if possible?)

Handicap ramp/access

### **5. Dreams and Hopes for Future**

What elements would you like to see added to the Nature Center in the Future?

Imagine the Center ten years from now, what do you see?

### **6. Fundraising**

Can you please provide the Tax ID number to be included on donation forms (to encourage local business to donate)?

Can you please confirm the current township funds available ?

Will Ann sign the fundraising letters with me to increase legitimacy?

From Kurt Koevenig, Architect for LNC Deck Project

Survey comments due to Steve Groeger by 3/30/12 [sgroeger@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:sgroeger@lawrencetwp.com)