

LNC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2012, 7:00 PM

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

- I. Meeting called to Order at 7:10 pm.
- II. Meeting Attendance: Sue Herrmann, Rick Dutko, Linda Townsend, and Janet Kane. Guests: Teresita Bastides-Heron, Laura and Carole Bentivegna.
- III. Last Meeting's Minutes were Approved
- IV. **Chairperson's Report**

Laura Bentivegna explained her Silver Girl Scout video project. She will make several short videos that can be used on the LNC Web site to show our nature educational programs + events, building + grounds, and Drexel Woods. The community will be encouraged to visit LNC and attend our programs. This video (s) will become a permanent link on <http://lawrencenaturecenter.net>

 - A. Summary of Education programs/events held since 3/27/12. **Out of the Woods** book signing and talk about healing chronic Lyme Disease by author Katina Makris. Twenty attended – from all over NJ, NH, and Martha's Vineyard.

Visit to LNC from Mercer County Horticulturist, Barbara Bromley, to aid in identification of plants and trees was on 4/20/12. Her comments were shared with this committee.
- V. **Naturalist's Report**
 - A. Report was presented at FLNC meeting on 4/11/2012
 - B. **LNC Educational Field Trip on 3/30/12** – Rick Dutko and Sue Herrmann visited three other nature centers for

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IDEAS in educational methods, nature displays, trails, etc. They took many photos; the committee discussed their trip findings. They will make recommendations to FLNC Board.

C . **Tree identification project + Arbor Day Walk, 4/27/12**

- Rick Dutko and Janet Kane presented their progress and plans for Arbor Day Walk (inside posters and outside self-educational walk with brochure). Rick will lead the Arbor Day Walk.

VI. **Community Outreach Report**

- A. **Ben Franklin School Science Fair on 3/29/12** – Rick Dutko showed his turtles and Red-back Salamander vs. worm at the LNC table and Allison Kohler was the key speaker. She spoke about Watersheds, Water Quality Preservation and other Americorps projects.
- B. **LHS Volunteer Fair on 4/18/12** – Someone should attend representing LNC next year – too short notice and we need specific project dates to request volunteers.
- C. Spring Fling at Presbyterian Church on 4/29 - Linda T attended for her church and LNC jointly.
- D. **Lawrenceville Jubilee on 4/29/12** – tables are \$50 each/ We voted **NO** to LNC participation @ Jubilee during FLNC meeting on 4/11/12. Committee felt that the Jubilee fee was too expensive for non-profit groups.

VII. **Old Business**

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- A. Status of office furniture donations: desk + credenza -
Pieces were never delivered to LNC by Lawrence Twp
Public Works.
- B. Status of Lawrence Nature Center DECK – Presentation
made to Board on 4/16/12 - Discussion
- C. Publicity for LNC programs and events – We need a policy
+ procedure written
- D. SPECIAL REQUESTS:
 - 1. **Roberta Hunter at LES** is looking for an open
evening @ LNC to host a “Get Out and Play” during
Earth Week for LES students + families =
POSTPONED until 2013 Earth Week.
 - 2. **Marcia Steinberg at HomeFront** is looking for help
with the tutoring of after school children. Linda
Burroughs spoke to her yesterday and is taking
care of it.
 - 3. **Amy Hnasko (formerly at EPS)** asked about rain
barrels for EPS garden – I gave her Tahirah Smith’s
email address (Sustainable Lawrence).

VIII. New Business

- A. Upcoming events –
 - 1. **Arbor Day will be on April 27** – 6:30 pm at LNC.
 - 2. **Mother Nature Festival on May 12** – we need a
flyer or postcard to distribute immediately. We have
missed many audiences taking the flyer. Terisita is in
charge of the Festival this year. She summarized the

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table and activities planned. Group tables are FREE.

Teresita needs help making phone calls to various groups who did not respond to our invitation to participate..

3. **Summer Family Nights (July + Aug)** – speaker names + program dates NEEDED ASAP. Please assist Sue with this calendar preparation.

B. **SPECIAL REQUESTS** for Discussion:

1. **Huck Fairman, freelance writer for *The Packet*, wants to write an article about Lawrence Nature Center - Discussion of topics we might want to highlight.**

2. **All FLNC volunteers, Board members, and officers, SAVE members, scouts, college groups, community members:** BEGIN to DOCUMENT your hours of volunteer service to Lawrence Nature Center. This is needed for grant applications when LNC becomes non-profit 501(c)(3) IRS status.

C. NO OTHER NEW BUSINESS.

IX. LNC 2012 Calendar future programs discussed.

X. Adjournment was at 8:45 pm

Respectfully submitted, Sue Herrmann, Education Chairperson