



Eagle Conservation & Education Committee Meeting Notes

7/1/15, 6 pm | Hampton Inn, Matamoras, PA

Present:

Joel Murphy, Brad Orey, Pat Erhard, Ingrid Peterec (NPS), Anya Shaunessy (NPS), Steven Davis, Nicole Slevin- Chair, Patricia Diness, Lori McKean

Note-taker – Simon Knox

Meeting called to order 6:00 pm by Nicole.

Introduction

Welcome to Patricia Erhard our new Eagle and Education Committee member.

Grants

TAG Grant:

River Fest in Narrowsburg, July 26th. Patricia Diness confirmed that Don, Kevin and maybe Michael would be assisting with the viewing scopes, and that herself, Dianne and Anne would be managing the table in the festival. Simon to confirm if booking and location at event is secure.

Strategic Planning & Objectives 2016

Improved communication of eagle sightings and viewing locations was identified as a priority for the 2016 Eagle season. The committee agreed on the following actions:

1. Improved social media exposure, on different platforms (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram)
2. Social Media training for volunteers in order to increase participation
3. Communicating information to the Visitor Center, daily updates, etc.

Eagle and Education Events

School Education Programs:

In partnership with the NPS a number of successful education programs were held with different schools over this last year, Simon mentioned the potential for these types of programs to connect with a large and young audience and spread the message of conservation. However, these programs are generally scheduled during the week and require an element of flexibility with weather and school schedules.

A volunteer is required who would feel comfortable sharing the Conservancy's mission, the Eagles story, taking questions and setting up spotting scopes by the Lackawaxen boat launch. It is a morning commitment during the week.

We will only advertise this event for 2016 if we can secure some volunteers. Please confirm your availability with Patricia Diness by our September meeting.

Teach the Teacher:

Lori introduced a program where the Conservancy would reach out to schools in the surrounding region and host teachers in a "Teach the Teacher" program. The goal would be to create excitement in the teachers who would share this with their pupils, drawing people into our existing Eagle Watch program or Bus Tours.



Further discussion on grade level, schools, program and education materials is needed.

Scavenger Hunt:

Another promotional program was proposed. An online downloadable “Scavenger Hunt” could be made available online with participants collecting prizes from the Visitor Center. An alternative would be to create GeoCaches at each of the viewing blinds, encouraging a visitor we potentially haven’t reached yet.

Further discussion is required, on what and who will produce the material.

Upcoming Events:

Zane Grey Festival, July 18, 10am-4pm – Lackawaxen, PA

Riverfest, July 26, 10am-5pm – Narrowsburg, NY

Harvest Festival at Bethel Woods - Earth Day in Fall, September 20, 11am-5pm – Bethel, NY

Forestburgh ASTI Project Discussion

The committee approved the drafted email written by Lori. Simon will send this email to Bill Rudge at the NY DEC.

Other

Adjourned 7:20pm

Meetings

Legal Committee – July 29, 2pm – Hawley Office

Land Protection – Aug 9, 6-8pm – Talen Enviro. Learning Center, Hawley, PA

Finance Committee – Aug 11, 9-10am – Hawley Office

Exec Committee – Aug 11, 10-11am – Hawley Office

Legal Committee – Aug 26, 2pm – Hawley Office

Annual Member/Volunteer Picnic – Aug 29 – Bethel, NY

Eagle Conservation and Education Committee – Sep 2, 6-8pm – Matamoras, PA

Finance Committee – Sep 8, 9-10am – Hawley Office

Exec Committee – Sep 8, 10-11am – Hawley Office

Board Meeting – Sep 10, 5-8pm – the Settlers’ Inn, Hawley PA