

## Eagle Conservation & Education Committee Meeting Notes

11/4/15, 6 pm | Hampton Inn, Matamoras, PA

*Present:*

Nicole Slevin-Chair, Ken Myett, Ingrid Peterec (NPS), Patricia Diness, Joel Murphy, Karen Lutz  
Note-taker – Simon Knox

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***Meeting called to order 6:00 pm by Nicole.***

### ***Introductions***

The committee welcomed Karen Lutz the Conservancy's new Board President

### ***Eagle and Education Events***

#### **Short Term Activities**

- Simon discussed the schedule for the 2015-2016 Eagle Season with the committee.
  - o Ingrid confirmed she would reach out to Mr. McCarthy, a science teacher at Port Jervis, to confirm which grade curriculum is best suited to our program.
  - o Simon to send a reminder email to both the NPS and NY DEC regarding snow plowing, parking and Eagle Season preparations. Ingrid to confirm point person for NPS.

#### **Long Term Activities**

- Simon shared the Conservancy's 2016 Event Listing with the committee.

### ***Administration***

#### **Strategy and Responsibilities:**

- Karen shared the Conservancy's Draft Strategic Plan 2016-2018 and Committee Responsibilities, and how they fit into the Conservancy's ongoing Accreditation Renewal process with the Land Trust Alliance.
- Eagle Conservation and Education Committee Responsibilities - *attached*
  - o Karen explained that this document was updated to reflect the changes that have been made to the Board's committee structure.
  - o The committee was asked to review this document and share their comments
    - Joel mentioned that "experience" should be added when describing the committee composition
- Strategic Plan 2016-2018
  - o A revised draft of this Plan is *attached*, as discussed during the meeting.
  - o The committee is asked to review and share their comments
    - Karen encouraged the committee to think of items or goals that would guide the committee over the next three years, emphasizing the importance of input from the committees in establishing this plan.
    - Ingrid felt that many of the bullets included in the draft shared with the committee might not be applicable. Karen acknowledged that this was an early draft of the document and a number of revisions had been made that

addressed some of Ingrid's concerns. A revised draft will be sent to the Committee to provide clarity and make a review of the Plan easier.

#### **Committee and Staff Structure:**

- During the discussions regarding the Committee Responsibilities and Strategic Plan, the structure of the Eagle Conservation and Education committee was questioned given the introduction of the Education component and the related strategies. During the discussion it was noted that a number of activities that the Eagle Conservation group undertakes are directly related to education and that this mission is taken very seriously by its members. Karen also noted that there are additional educational programs that are currently conducted by staff that need to be owned by a committee and it was logical to expand the focus of this committee due to the synergies of the Eagles and Education. Karen acknowledged that there is an effort underway to expand committee membership to include individuals interested in the education component.
- Nicole informed the committee that she was stepping down as chair of this committee and from the Board. Her notice had been given to the Board and accepted during the Board meeting in October 2015. All those present shared their thanks and best wishes for her future endeavors.
  - o Each member of the committee was asked to consider volunteering for the position or to make a suggestion as to who they thought would make a good chair for this committee.
  - o Karen noted that a requirement of being chair would be the expectation that the chair become a member of the Board, in order to better communicate between the two groups.
- Patricia also shared with the committee that this Eagle Season will be her last as the Conservancy's Volunteer Coordinator. Again, our thanks to Patricia for all that she has done for this group.
  - o Karen shared with the committee that currently the Conservancy was looking for a full-time replacement for Jamie, Carol and Patricia, and that a position, Stewardship Associate, has been advertised and resumes are being taken.
    - Ken noted that his daughter had applied for the position
    - The committee was encouraged to make suggestions and share this posting with their networks.

#### **2016 Meeting Schedule:**

- The 2016 Meeting Schedule was shared with the committee and members were asked to inform the committee which dates in 2016 they would be able to attend.

#### **Conflict of Interest**

- 2016 Conflict of Interest form (*attached*) were distributed amongst the committee. Each member is required to review and sign the last page and return it to the office.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

Eagle Volunteer Training – Dec 5, 2015, 9am-1pm – Inn at Lackawaxen



For more events please go to: <http://www.delawarehighlands.org/newsevents/eventdates>

### *New Business*

#### **New Eagle Blind**

- Simon shared with the committee an invitation to a meeting to discuss the possible installation of a new eagle blind at the confluence of the East Branch of the Delaware River and the Beaverkill River in the town of Hancock, NY.
- The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> onsite at the location. If you are interested in attending please contact Simon.

### *Adjourned 7:40pm*

### *Next Meetings*

Finance Committee – Nov 9, 9-10am – Hawley Office

Executive Committee – Nov 9, 10-11am – Hawley Office

**Board Meeting – Nov 12, 5-8pm – Enviro. Learning Center, Hawley PA**

Legal Committee – Nov 18, 2pm – Hawley Office

Land Protection – Dec 1, 6-8pm – Enviro. Learning Center, Hawley PA

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

Executive Committee – Dec 8, 10-11am – Hawley Office

**Board Meeting – Dec 10, 5-8pm – Enviro. Learning Center, Hawley PA**

Legal Committee – Dec 16, 2pm – Hawley Office