

Nature Education Standing Committee meeting 3/1/2018

The meeting was opened at 6:30 PM on March 1, 2018 by our Mill Creek MetroPark representative as our previous chair Jeff Harvey is now a MillCreek MetroPark Commissioner. Our Secretary Jan Hubbard has also resigned. New members Josh Boyle and Stacy Pavlik were introduced. Mr. Schroeder was not in attendance. Mrs. Vigorito opened nominations for Chairman. Mr. Boyle nominated himself, seconded by Mr. Visingardi seconded, vote was 5-0. Nomination was made for Secretary. Mrs. Brundage was nominated by Mr. Boyle, seconded by Mr. Visingardi , vote was 5-0.

Mrs. Brundage reported Mr. Harvey had Mrs. Hubbard's minutes from the September 13, 2017 meeting as well as notes submitted to Mr. Harvey from Mrs. Hubbard and Mrs. Gay. Mrs. Paull was asked to summarize the State Standards to the Board. Mrs. Paull stated Education has been added to the Park Mission Statement by the Park Commissioners. State Standards are required by schools for programs to be held in the Park for science was also passed by the Commissioners. Mrs. Vigorito said there currently are timelines, correlation is done, now going over how to align with standards and to better utilize various facilities in park. Mrs. Paull said there are needs for certain types of programs. All Naturalist Educators have completed Certified Interpretive Guide training through NAI. All programs are evaluated. The programs all should be changed over to match standards by December 2018.

The Ford Nature Center will be undergoing reconstruction in 2019. Some of the programs are: Coming to America, Barnyard Critters, Nature in winter, Mill tours, Farm tours and Habitat is Home for 2nd grade. Mr. Visingardi asked if there were only tours for High Schools. Mrs. Pavlik say could be like Invasive Species.

Mr. Boyle asked if there were any grants for programs. There is now a Development Director for the Park. Mr. Boyle asked that our committee do some research on possible grants. Mr. Visingardi said that ODOW has grants, possible for transportation costs. Mrs. Paull said that we need some new programs first. Mr. Visingardi said ODOW offers recreation programs. Mrs. Vigorito said there is an Archery grant for 2019. All donations and endowments must go through the Mill Creek MetroParks Foundation.

A tentative date of April 5, 2018 was set if a room was available for the next meeting
The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Nancy Brundage, Secretary