

REC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes for May 22nd, 2014

Members Present: Dev Quandt, Don & Cece Rudolph, Steve Schmidt

Guest Present: Noel Dolde

Prayer

Old Business

1. Meeting minutes from fall 2013 were approved. Cece motioned & Dev seconded.
2. Updates
 - a. on use 2013-14 school year (exact numbers not yet tallied)
 - i. NCMS & NCHS CC tree planting on Tuesday, May 6th from 3:30 to 5pm. About 22 MS students and HS CC VP Alex Dums worked in three groups chaperoned by Dev, Patrick Hollett (NCHS Science) Wes Ebert (retired NCHS Science), and a parent. Many trees were planted, but clearly much more time was needed. The biggest delays were setting up deer barriers and training the students. (1.5 hrs)
 - ii. Freshmen Trek to REC on Friday, May 9th. Thirty-five NCHS freshmen studied tree id in science (Wes Ebert), mythology in English (Margaret (Peggy) Erickson), deriving Pi from tree circumference in Math (Peter Barbella), and religion (Patrick Meverden). Steve Schmidt led a nature hike and worked with students to plant some more trees.
 - iii. NCMS CC annual spring gathering on Tuesday, May 13th from 3:30 to 5pm. Twenty-two students planted more trees for about 1.5 hours.
 - iv. 2 more scheduled for late May
 1. NCMS 6th grade
 2. NCHS – St. Anne 3rd grade classes
 - v. The harvest of diseased red pines on Saturday, May 3rd went well. Steve Schmidt organized the volunteers: Wendy and Al Hamann and their two children; John Rudolph; Paula Damask and sons Jake (NCHS alum) and Jeremy (NCMS) student; Wes and Stephan Ebert. All of the trees were cut, but about 10 or so needed to be cut to length and de-limbed. Steve Schmidt and Jake Damask cut most of the rest to length on Friday, May 23rd.
 1. Al Hamann returned earlier today with his ATV to drag the rest of the logs to the decked piles.
 2. Thank you notes were signed at the meeting.
 3. Dev and Steve finished cutting the logs to length after the meeting.
 4. Road limits are off, so Mike Meister can come and pick up the logs after we finish decking them.
 5. Steve, Wes, and Stephan Ebert will finish decking the logs on Wednesday, May 28th.
 - b. Planting
 - i. Most trees and shrubs were planted. The original order was for 100 of each of the following: tamarack, white spruce, red osier dogwood, dogwood, American plum, and nine-bark.
 - ii. About 100 or so remained unplanted.

iii. Steve will call the DNR to ask how to disperse them.

iv. We will have a better sense of how many to order next year ☺

a. REC Rules – Our current list will be finalized in fall. It is below.

1. Welcome neighbors
2. Daytime use only
3. Hunting Prohibited
4. Firearms prohibited
5. Fires in fire pit only by permission
6. Forest is closed to outside use when school groups are present
7. Please follow “Leave No Trace” principles
 - a. Pack out what you packed in
 - b. Pick up any extra trash left by others
 - c. Pick up after pets
 - d. Pets must be kept in control so as not to harass wildlife

ii. How should we post them?

1. At the meeting in spring 2013, Wes suggested side of building and near map sign. It was also mentioned that it would make an excellent Eagle project to build the sign(s) and post them.
2. Don Rudolph suggested that they be posted near the main entrance sign.

c. Forest management plan

i. We still need to add verbiage regarding invasive species control. Our goal is to complete that in the fall.

ii. Steve created a new map which identifies general vicinity of the 5 stands mentioned in the Forest Management Plan. (see other attachment)

iii. We will need to assess again following the harvest next winter.

iv. The contract for the logging to be completed was extended through March 2015.

New Business

1. Noel Dolde asked if the REC was used in the summer for camps or other activities. Steve said that he thought that NCECC-St. Michael visited once last summer. He will double check.
2. Enjoyed amazing brownies and peanut butter cookies brought by Cecelia Rudolph!
3. Chores – Dev and Steve cut the remaining logs to length.
4. Next meeting in Fall, possibly via email if Eagle Project to do building maintenance moves forward

Respectfully submitted

23 May 2014

by Stephen Schmidt, manager

Snapshot Science, LLC