

REC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes for 01 June 2015

Members Present: John Eldredge, Don & Cecelia Rudolph, Dev Quandt, Wes Ebert,
Guests Present: Nora & Christian Eldredge

Prayer – Led by Steve Schmidt

Old Business

1. Previous meeting (10/09/14) minutes were approved.
2. Harvest summary – some pics REC webpage at www.snapshotscience.org
 - a. The harvest was successfully completed.
 - b. Most of the logs have been trucked to mills. The red pines harvested in May 2014 were also taken!
 - c. Cody (logger) will fix the broken gate, smooth the ruts left near the pond, and plant some annual grass to minimize erosion until natural growth can fill in.
 - d. The freshmen recently visited the REC and smoothed the ruts between the clear cut and the part that Cody will handle.
3. Tree planting summary – 2014 tree survival; 2015 planting completed
 - a. All 400 trees and shrubs were planted.
 - b. Wes Ebert and Steve Schmidt planted about 325 of the trees
 - c. The NCHS/MS CC planted about 75 trees on April 28th.
 - d. 100 sugar maples were planted along the upland area among the jack pine harvest slash. These were watered and have leafed out. Some not protected by slash have been browsed already. The site may be too dry for them.
 - e. 75 black cherries were also planted in various bottomland locations and the upland area nearest the pond. There are lots of natural seedlings already. These were offered as a replacement for the limit on red maples. Do not order in the future.
 - f. 100 silver maples were planted along the slough and marsh. These may be the only silver maples at the REC. These were chosen to increase biodiversity, despite their limited marketability. The bottomland is well-suited for the species.
 - g. 25 Red maples were planted in various locations.
 - h. 50 balsam firs were planted in various locations of the bottomland and along the pond, and a few in the field and clearing in the red pines.
 - i. 25 each of high bush cranberry and silky dogwood were planted. The original order was for 50 cranberry, but 25 were replaced with dogwood due to limited availability. These were planted around the bottomland, including the clear-cut.
 - j. As trees were planted, Wes and Steve noticed balsam and tamarack that have survived from the spring 2014 planting. Some browsing was noticed, but the seedlings appear to be doing ok.

New Business

1. John Eldredge was recognized and thanked for his leadership as a founding member of the REC Steering committee. John received a certificate in honor of his years of support and dedication to the REC and to the students of NCS. Those present enjoyed treats baked by Cece Rudolph.
2. Possible Eagle projects were discussed.

- a. The trail is difficult to follow due to the recent harvest and the decay of the wood chips. A priority project would be trail work, including laying wood chips along the entire 0.4 mile loop. Mary Wagner has also requested some markers, especially on the island.
- b. Signs – Rules; Eagle scout projects recognition
- c. Invasive species control is needed, especially buckthorn.

3. Poison Ivy

- a. There is a thick patch of poison ivy in the ditch along the road between the ramp and driveway. The patch does extend beyond the driveway to the east, also.
- b. This is a particularly bad location since students are often dropped off on the side of the road in this location.
- c. Wes found a couple of individual plants in the bottomland, too.
- d. The spot by the road will need to be treated.

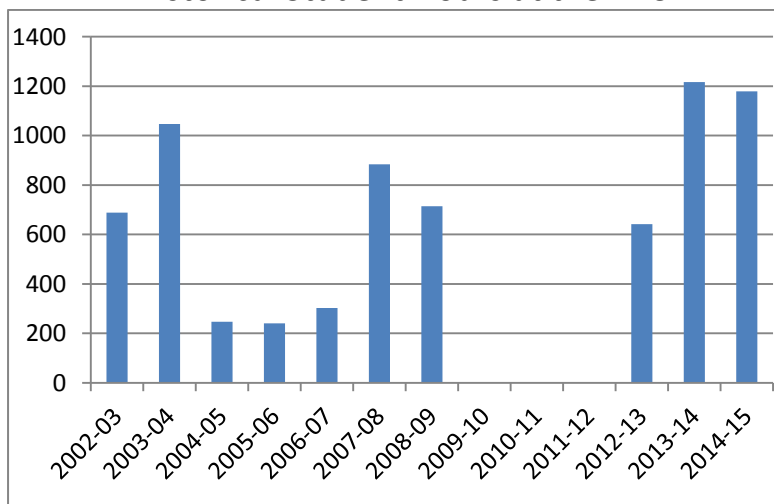
4. REC use in 2014-15

- a. May – Freshmen; NCMS – CC; 6th grade; NCES – St. Anne; NCES - St. Mark
- b. Overall – 1179 student hours (see data below)

2014-15							
Date	School	Teacher(s)	Grade	# of students	Time (hr)	Student hrs	Activity Description
9/25/14	NCMS	Quandt (et. Al)	6 to 8	104	3	312	BioBlitz & Buckthorn
25-Sep-14	NCHS	Kage et. Al	9	34	3	102	BioBlitz
25-Sep-14	NCES St. Mark	M. Wagner, et. Al.	3 to 5	30	3	90	BioBlitz
25-Sep-14	NCES St. Anne	L. Wagner, et. Al.	3	35	2	70	BioBlitz
16-Oct-14	NCMS	Quandt	6 to 8	35	1.5	52.5	CC gathering
10-Feb-15	NCMS	Quandt	6 to 8	25	1.5	37.5	CC gathering
2-Mar-15	NCES St. Mark	M. Wagner, et. Al.	4,5	18	2	36	Snowshoeing, clean wood duck hou
28-Apr-15	Various	Quandt, M. Wagner	4,6, 12	6	1.5	9	NCHS & NCMS CC; Planted trees
8-May-15	NCHS	Kage, Erickson, Radtke, Rowe	9	36	5	180	Math, Science, Religion, English
19-May-15	NCMS	Quandt	6 to 8	25	1.5	37.5	CC gathering
28-May-15	NCES St. Anne	L. Wagner, Shidell	3	35	3.5	122.5	
4-Jun-15	NCMS	Rupar, Gress	6	40	3.25	130	Pond Study/Scavenger Hunt
						0	
						1179	

Historical Student Hours at the REC

Year	Student Hours
2002-03	688
2003-04	1046.5
2004-05	247
2005-06	240
2006-07	302.5
2007-08	884
2008-09	714.5
2009-10	No data
2010-11	No data
2011-12	No data
2012-13	641.69
2013-14	1216.15
2014-15	1179



5. Work

- a. Trail work – Dev, Cece, Wes, and Steve walked the trail by the pond over to the bottomland clear cut. Brush was moved and some branches were cut.
- b. Deer Exclosure - Some of the supplies were carried out to the site. The group discussed the location.

6. Next meeting – Fall 2015