

Minutes of the Milton Frye Nature Area Committee for April 7, 2016

Present: George Clark, Tracey Kawecki, Lindsay Putnam

Because the ground has not yet sufficiently dried, renewed work on preparation of the site for the educational structure has not yet begun. The Parent Teacher Organization has awarded a \$1000 grant towards expenses to be incurred during construction of the structure. Some additional fund-raising is anticipated. The committee is hopeful that construction can begin fairly soon.

Regular emptying of the can holding bagged canine waste has continued, but the committee hopes to recruit additional volunteer assistance in emptying of the can.

Lindsay Putnam has been communicating with representatives from St. Barnabas Episcopal Church. The committee is pleased that the church is acting to physically eliminate invasive plants on church property.

Justin Hybels and his family have generously offered to maintain the bird houses in the meadow. Two bird houses on poles are now on the ground, and the poles need to be reburied. Planning has begun for that repositioning of the bird houses..

During the coming week, Fred Glanzburg is to visit for an assessment of the current status of invasive plants in the nature area.

The Parent Teacher Organization has awarded a grant to Lindsay Putnam to support tree planting along the drainage stream so as to reduce erosion along the banks of the stream. In early afternoon on Thursday April 21 a group of students is to be planting those trees. Assistance in this process by volunteers would be welcomed. Volunteers wishing to assist in this tree planting should contact Lindsay Putnam at the Marion Cross School (phone 802-649-1703 or email <lindsay.putnam@hanovernorwichschools.org>).

During the next several weeks, the MFNAC hopes to hold a work session for volunteers to assist in removing invasive plants and in other tasks, with the date of that event yet to be determined.

The committee also hopes to be able to offer a walk to view colorful spring wildflowers in the nature area, and a prospective leader for that walk is being contacted.

Signage is needed to request that children using the nature area not slide down certain rocky slopes where vulnerable native plants grow.

Respectfully submitted,
George Clark