

Board Meeting
Friends of the State Line Serpentine Barrens
January 9, 2011 (9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.)

Present:

Cindy Whitesel, Chair
Bob Barker, Vice-Chair
Henry Whitesel, Director, Field Project Coordinator

Excused:

Rose Chase, Treasurer
Megan Laufert, Secretary
Tristan Stewart (Advisor, Environmental Planning)

Purpose of the Board Meeting:

To discuss the status of Friends' habitat restoration activities and future priorities; the future and organization of the Friends' organization; the roundtable meeting on January 13, 2011.

Agenda Items:

1. Discuss the Friends' organizational structure and discuss duties for Board Members; recruitment of Volunteers and Members.
2. Discuss land management priorities for the SLSB sites.
3. Discuss budget for 2011.
4. Prepare for the roundtable meeting on January 13, 2011.
5. Discuss content of PPF annual report due January 31, 2011.

Reports from Board Members and Discussion:

1. Board discussed organizational chart and established duties for Board Members and Advisory Directors.
2. In 2011, we will organize a campaign for Volunteer recruitment with the help of PPF. We will establish a separate category for Members and fees. (Those who volunteer will not be asked for a Membership fee.) We discussed what benefits would membership bring to those who pay for an annual membership. Ideas included checklists for flora, fauna, and Lepidoptera for birdwatchers and others with naturalists' interests; printed maps (finished maps will be posted on the website); monthly or quarterly newsletter; t-shirts or ball caps. We will brainstorm this one more.
3. Possible uses for the \$300 donation: hand-held GPS, shirts and ball caps, map printing. We will solicit other ideas and possible budget needs in the first quarter of 2011.

4. The chair is writing the PFFF 2010 annual report, due January 31, 2011, which will include the organization's goals, as well as our management goals for the SLSB sites. A list of all Friends' activities for 2010 will be included. The vice-chair is compiling the Friends' land management goals to be included, using the stakeholders' site management plans.

5. The Board discussed our presentations at the January 13 Roundtable meeting, organized by Molly Anderson of TNC, to be held at Nottingham County Park. We will present our assessments of New Texas (Henry Whitesel) and Upper and Lower Chrome (Bob Barker) grasslands and habitat restoration and what remains to be done. We will also present our assessment of the trail work that is needed at Chrome Barrens and at Goat Hill.

We discussed the training and equipment that Friends might need to continue the work of TNC in their absence, e.g., herbicide training and chain saw safety training.

Action Items:

1. Complete the 2011 Annual Report for PFFF. (Cindy Whitesel)
2. Prepare habitat restoration and/or trail clearing recommendations for each of the sites. Get clarification from TNC on our role in the Chrome Barrens. (Bob Barker)
3. Compile questions for stakeholders. (Bob Barker and Henry Whitesel)
4. Compile brief reports for each of the stakeholders on the number of hours the Friends group has provided to each of the stakeholders. Copy and distribute to stakeholders at the meeting. (Cindy Whitesel)

Issues and Concerns for the Roundtable:

1. Will TNC and/or DCNR create a science panel for the SLSB?
2. Will TNC appoint an eco-scientist in an advisory capacity?
3. Liability insurance?

What we need:

1. Mapping and maps
2. Training for herbicide application and chain saw safety