

**Friends of the State Line Serpentine Barrens  
Nottingham County Park – October 15, 2017**

Attending: Chris Hoess, Tracy Raymond, Bill Whitaker, David Ross, Henry Whitesel in person;  
Molly Anderson by phone.

**A) Key Dates**

1. Our next board meeting

Sunday, November 19, 2pm-4pm, conference call

**Conference Dial-in number: (716) 748-0224** (potential toll call)

**Participant Access Code: 445962#**

2. Hikes, Talks, Work Days and Other Commitments

Fri 20 Oct 0900 Goat Hill stewardship – Kent and David lead

Sun 22 Oct 1300 Upper Chrome seed collection for Lower Chrome -- Molly leads

Sun 12 Nov 1300 Upper Chrome trail work -- Molly leads

Fri 17 Nov 0900 New Texas stewardship -- Henry leads

Sun 3 Dec 0900 New Texas or Goat Hill stewardship -- Bob leads

Sun 17 Dec 0900 Goat Hill stewardship -- David leads

**B) Action Items Going Forward**

Tabled Agenda Items

Ex officio board representation

Draft strategic plan for hosting International Serpentine Conference

Promoting better communication among Board members in executing events and activities

Mapping and protecting *Ceanothus americanus* and *Baptisia tinctoria*

Web site

Molly Anderson

Liaison for Chrome seed collection and burn

Will make final 10/22 go decision based on weather  
Will take custody of seeds for wintering-over.  
Will keep FSLSB informed once burn date chosen

Leads 11/12 Upper Chrome trail work

Mike Bertram:

Point person for our history initiatives and web master

Bob Gray:

Will circulate a map showing potential locations for serpentine seeps at Lower Chrome.

Point person for strategic planning initiatives.

Chris Hoess:

October 22 seed collection:

Hopes to pull together a handout to give volunteers for identifying promising seedheads.

Will provide Molly with contact information for volunteers

Will write up workday report.

Will send volunteer invitation for Mt Cuba to circulate promoting FSLSB events.

Will continue working on helping to preserve the Hughes property as a step in gaining a trail easement between Goat Hill and Camp Horseshoe.

Will pursue contacts with Bill Kilby of Cecil Land Trust.

Tracy Raymond

Will provide Molly with contact information for volunteers for 10/22

Will schedule a conference-call meeting of the Outreach Committee:

Propose date for Rock Springs-Goat Hill field trip.

Discuss strategy for attracting monitors for site 2 at New Texas

Will discuss concerns about West Nottingham Country Fair with township officials

David Ross:

Will schedule Restoration Committee meeting.

Review 12/3 and 12/17 workdays  
Set goals and dates for Spring 2018 workdays

Will handle the administrative end of October 20 at Goat Hill, passing the baton to Kent around 10am who will complete the work plan.

Will send out invitation for both Goat Hill and Chrome seed collection stewardship days.

Will facilitate a meeting between Tracy and WNT officials concerning Country Fair.

Will facilitate conversations with Dennis Byrne over how alternative management of the serpentine portion of Airport Barrens might benefit us and Herrs.

Point person for administrative initiatives.

Kent Wagner:

Co-leader, October 20 work day at Goat Hill.

Henry Whitesel:

Leads Nov. 17 at New Texas

Bill Whittaker:

**C) Items Considered**

**Welcome and Agenda**

We thanked Ranger Frank Keegan for opening up the NCP meeting room.

**Next Meeting Date**

November 19, Conference Call, 2pm-4pm.

**Upcoming Activities**

- Stewardship Day, Goat Hill, 10/20

David will handle the administrative end, passing the baton to Kent around 10am who will complete the work plan.

David will send out invitation for both Goat Hill and Chrome seed collection stewardship days.

Heather Kerr and Kelly Sitch have indicated they plan to attend from BoF.

- Seed collection, Chrome, 10/22

Tracy and Chris are coming; will provide Molly with contact information for other volunteers.

TNC will be using a wetlands seed mix for Unit 5. So October 22 event will focus on collecting seeds from NE corner of Upper Chrome (for units 1-4) and from wet areas between parking lot and NE corner.

Chris to seek pull together a handout to give volunteers for identifying promising seedheads.

Molly responsible for wintering-over the seeds

Chris to write up workday report.

- Trailwork, Chrome, 11/12

Molly leads. Looking forward to being assisted by one of two new TNC land stewards (Elizabeth from Harrisburg office -- a sawyer!)

- Stewardship Day, New Texas, 11/17

Chris will file September workday report after one more check with Bob Gray.

Henry to contact Hannums to confirm 11/17 date

Chris reports that there is a large area of high quality serpentine terrain in site 2; important to protect during work day; have Outreach Committee develop strategy to recruit site monitors.

- Stewardship Day, 12/3 & Stewardship Day, Goat Hill, 12/17

Referred to Restoration Committee. David to schedule meeting

- Mt. Cuba trip 5/19/18

Chris has blurb for Mt. Cuba volunteer outreach all-but ready to go.

Chris is leading Mt. Cuba event on May 19. He is asking honorarium to be directed to PPF for FSLSB

### **Reports**

- Nottingham fair (10/7)

This event, whose location and timing fit nicely with our strategic outreach needs, has fallen short of our hopes for the 2<sup>nd</sup> straight year.

David will provide Tracy with contact information to meet with Candie Miller, the primary Township point person for the event.

Reimbursement of Harold Sweetman for plants sold at the fair has been deferred as he may donate the small quantity of stock that was sold.

There was some useful intelligence gathering from the event:

Chris is linking Pat and Ann Hughes to representatives from Brandywine Conservancy to ease their property on Gray Horse Road. Chris will explore with Joe Frassetta whether this might be a good time to reach out to the family controlling the last remaining parcel standing in the way of a trail link between Goat Hill and Camp Horseshoe.

PennEnvironment (environmental advocacy organization) might prove a promising partner.

- Chrome firebreak digging (10/12-10/13)

Hoping Kent and Mike W. can provide final update on the status of sits 1-4 going into the burn.

- Other activities

West Nottingham Airport Barrens

David will facilitate conversations with Dennis Byrne over how alternative management of the serpentine portion might benefit us and Herrs.

Barrens outcroppings in Fair Hills.

Chris was encouraged by the potential for interesting Cecil Land Trust board member Bill Kilby in potential collaboration -- both in terms of nurturing serpentine sites in Cecil County and organizing events through Cecil Historical Society.

## **Business**

- Southern pine beetle infestation

A large swathe of pitch pine around McPherson Lake is dead. The expectation is that the Park will lose virtually all of its mature population of Pitch and Virginia Pine.

BoF is investing in a drone survey over the next few weeks of dense pine groves in the area (including New Texas and other Lancaster Barrens sites)

We want to stay engaged in the discussions of the response to the challenge. Can we find a way to broker a restoration plan for the Park that actually expands the amount of serpentine terrain accessible to the public?

- Chrome fire outreach

No additional outreach appears needed.

- Stream monitoring at Chrome

David hopes to schedule the next round of monitoring Barren Brook for this month. He will check with Molly to make sure he isn't running into the burn and will email the Board to see if any others wish to join him.

Tracy will continue wooing David Royer to explore possibility of class stream monitoring project to coincide with our data collection effort next April.

- Mapping plants at burn sites

Tabled

- Event planning

Tabled

- Web site

Tabled to November

## **Adjournment**

Adjourned at 4:02