

**Friends of the State Line Serpentine Barrens
Nottingham County Park – January 14, 2014**

Participating: Chris Hoess, David Ross, Tracy Raymond, Henry Whitesel in person; Molly Anderson by phone

A) Key Dates

1. Our next board meeting

Sunday, February 18, 2-4 at NCP

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

Participant Access Code: 445962#

2. Hikes, Talks, Work Days and Other Commitments

January 19 at New Texas is cancelled

February and March Workday dates to be finalized by Restoration Committee

B) Action Items Going Forward

Tabled Agenda Items

Stakeholders meeting

Update FSLSB strategic plan

Web site

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*

Molly Anderson

Will update the Board on initiatives at Chrome following Wednesday's TNC conference call.

Outreach to Elk about enrolling Chrome preserves in Game Commission program.

Will schedule date to re-blaze and remove fallen trees from Upper Chrome trails.

Will schedule date to walk Lower Chrome trails with equestrian neighbors and update them on Lower Chrome activities.

Lead for June Deloitte Day (likely June 8).

Mike Bertram:

Point person for our history initiatives and web master

Bob Gray:

Point person for strategic planning initiatives.

Chris Hoess:

Will arrange for our next Board meeting.

Will review his personal action items with eye to setting realistic priorities on what can be accomplished before next Board meeting.

Will contact Sally Willig about participation in April 29 Beauty in the Barrens event and potential additional collaboration with FLSLB.

Leading Goat Hill event in May for Mt. Cuba.

Will make site numbers on Goat Hill map easier to read and share with Tracy.

Will produce an updated site map for New Texas and share with Tracy.

Will send thank you note to Harold Sweetman.

Will contact Jay Gregg for an update on the status of the pine removal at NCP and to ensure that we are included in conversations about subsequent restoration.

Will pursue a meeting with LCC staff to discuss Rock Springs and New Texas.

Will follow up on opportunity to discuss easement monitoring and other stewardship activities with Susan Charkes.

Check board recruiting item for next steps.

Will participate in outreach committee meeting with Tracy.

Will determine feasibility of providing Board access to FLSLB server.

Will add updating our strategic plan to February Board meeting agenda.

Will add web site as February agenda item.

Tracy Raymond

Will produce laminated versions of the Goat Hill map (once Chris makes numbers easier to read) and New Texas map (once Chris produces it).

Point person for May 5 Tri-States Bird Rescue event.

Will pay \$55 printing bill.

Will follow up on conversation with Debbie Beer, Natural Lands

Check board recruiting item for next steps.

Will share organizational scheme for the new website for the February Board meeting.

Will schedule outreach committee meeting with Chris.

David Ross:

Will contact BoF to offer February 14, 15 or 16 as next Goat Hill workday and raise additional topics

Will work with Henry to coordinate Jim Herr mowing at Goat Hill.

Will schedule Charlie Fleischman to mow at New Texas, if Hannums permit.

Coordinates Barren Brook monitoring effort.

Schedules restoration committee meetings.

Point person for administrative initiatives.

Kent Wagner:

Leads February Goat Hill workday.

Henry Whitesel:

Will contact Hannums for permission for Charlie Fleischman to mow NT sites 1, 2, 19 and 3.

Will work with David to coordinate Jim Herr mowing at Goat Hill.

Bill Whittaker:

C) Items Considered

Welcome and Agenda

Agenda approved with minor additions.

Next Meeting Date

Sunday, February 18, 2-4 at NCP
Chris to contact NCP office.

Activity Schedule

- Stewardship Activities

January 19 workday at New Texas is cancelled.

Restoration Committee working to schedule a day for Charlie Fleischman to mow there.

BoF is taking responsibilities for work on northern grasslands at Goat hill: Burning brush piles at site 86; scheduling controlled burns at 1 and 99.

Restoration Committee will work with Jim Herr to mow 2-3 times at along Rose Trail on March 10, 17 or 24.

- Outreach Events
 - Beauty of the Barrens, April 29 at NCP

Chris to contact Sally Willig about FLSB collaboration on the event.

- Mt Cuba, May

Christ to lead event at Goat Hill for Mt. Cuba members; will donate honorarium to FLSB

- Chrome Update

George Gress has taken primary land stewardship responsibility for TNC properties in this area, while Molly will continue to be our FLSB liaison and Brad Maurer is the contact on the Barren Brook monitoring project.

The Board agreed to take on monitoring Upper and Lower Chrome for evidence of Southern Pine Beetle infestation. Chris noted that inspection of a dead pine near Upper Chrome identified in BoF drone flights revealed **no** infestation.

Molly still has in mind scheduling a date to walk Lower Chrome with neighboring equestrians to discuss condition of trails and to schedule a work day in upper chrome to re-blaze and remove fallen trees from trails.

Lower Chrome burn window has been extended through until May; hope to complete by end of March, ideally addressing all of the burn sites.

TNC would like to enroll both Chrome properties with the Game Commission for hunting. At present Elk Township issues 25 permits for hunting at Upper Chrome; TNC issues 15 archery only permits at Lower. Enrolling with Game Commission likely would increase the intensity of hunting, but would result in more regular monitoring of trespass by Commission staff.

David plans to complete the next round of Barren Brook monitoring this month.

Reports of Committees

- Restoration Committee

Shared notes of 1/11/18 meeting.

Henry added Goat Hill site 41 as a target for restoration activities.

Molly is thinking June 8 will be our next Deloitte Day. Expanding NE Upper Chrome clearing and/or work in northern grasslands at Goat Hill are possibilities.

Having a consistent/current set of Serpentine site maps (such as the one Chris created for Goat Hill) would be helpful.

- Tracy is taking responsibility for producing laminated maps we can use in planning meetings and work days starting with Goat Hill.
 - Chris will merge our most recent New Texas maps to create one like that for Goat Hill
- Outreach Committee

Tracy to schedule a meeting

Harold Sweetman donated the plants sold at Nottingham Country Fair. Chris will send thank you note.

Tracy intends to have FLSLB presence at May 5 Tri-States Bird Rescue event.

Molly reminds us of TNC bird count event in May.

- Finance Issues

Cecil Land Trust (Beth Burnam) provided FLSLB with a \$200 honorarium for Chris's tour of sites with Roger Latham. Chris will ask Roger if he is comfortable having this be an FLSLB donation.

Tracy reports that we have \$1794 in our PPF account; with an outstanding printing bill of \$55.

Business

- Outreach:
 - Bureau of Forestry

David will raise the following topics

- Determine next Goat Hill workday based on whether BoF rep can provide ATV certification and fuel storage locker (February 14, 15, 16).
- Follow up on southern pine beetle infestation detected at site 89.
- Update on burn plans
- Check on intern mapping project at Goat Hill and sharing shape files.

- Nottingham County Park

Chris will contact Jay Gregg for an update on the status of the pine removal at NCP and to ensure that we are included in conversations about subsequent restoration.

- Natural Lands

Tracy will follow up on conversation with Debbie Beer, Natural Lands, to explore potential collaboration opportunities. Natural Lands preserves include many of the remaining serpentine barrens sites near West Chester.

- LCC (visit, Rock Springs & New Texas work)

Lancaster County Conservancy has not been able stay ahead of deteriorating conditions at Rock Springs. FSLSB is in no condition to expand our scope, but perhaps we could offer some advice to their stewardship team. A focused workday with LCC members (and potentially a Lancaster area Deloitte Day team) might greatly expand the area where annual mowing could be effective.

- Chris will pursue setting up a meeting with LCC staff to discuss Rock Springs and New Texas.
- If opportunity to visit Rock Springs arises, Chris will share date with other Board and Restoration Committee members.

- Brandywine Conservancy

Chris will follow up on opportunity to discuss easement monitoring and other stewardship activities with Susan Charkes.

- Board recruiting

We agree that a desirable next step would be to reach out to individuals with concrete, limited duration tasks to engage them in our work. Then allow the relationship to build from there.

- David Royer -- Tracy explore class/club projects at Lincoln.
- Anna Hull -- Henry maintains contact
- John Coberly -- Tracy sound him out about an event he might co-lead.
- Sally Willig -- Chris discuss Beauty in the Barrens and other potential events.
- Kelly Sitch (Harrisburg)
- Jennifer Pavao -- Tracy reach out.
- Darlene Kershner --
- Harold Sweetman -- suggested he might become a board member when he retires
- Greg Sachs --- seed collection day volunteer

Look for opportunities to invite potential volunteers to social events.

- Website

Once Chris, completes recommended security software updates, he will share server access with the rest of the Board.

Tracy will share her organizational scheme for the new website for the February Board meeting.

- Future agenda items

Tracy reminded us that we need to revisit our strategic planning conversation and that we postponed a stakeholder meeting to Spring 2018.

Adjourned 3:55