

**Friends of the State Line Serpentine Barrens  
Board Meeting – August 16, 2018  
Nottingham County Park**

Participating: Chris Hoess, David Ross in person; Molly Anderson by phone.

**A) Key Dates**

1. Our next board meeting  
Proposed: Sunday, September 23 from 4pm-6 at NCP  
Alternative: Conference call, Thursday, September 20 7:30pm-9  
**Conference Dial-in number: (716) 748-0224** (potential toll call)  
**Participant Access Code: 445962#**
  
2. Hikes, Talks, Work Days and Other Commitments  
  
August 23, 4:30: PPF Monthly Conference Call  
  
August 24, 10am: Lower Chrome planning meeting

**B) Action Items Going Forward**

Tabled Agenda Items

- Web Site Reboot
  
- Review Strategic Plan
  
- International Serpentine Conference
  
- Pursing conversations with the managers of scout camps containing serpentine ecosystems.

Molly Anderson

Will send reminder for August 24 meeting at Lower.

Mike Bertram:

Point person for our history initiatives and web master

Bob Gray:

Will draft a few sentences describing contents of FSLSB archive material and transfer files to David.

Point person for strategic planning initiatives.

Chris Hoess:

Will confirm next Board meeting date and time after checking with Tracy and Bob.

Will contact Tracy to

Discuss her availability for FLSLB activities over the coming months.

Find a workable time for September board meeting.

Convey Board approval of reimbursement for chains for sawyers.

Suggest a joint outing with interested parties from Cherry Hill (MD) preserve.

Will contact Roger Latham

For update on NCP restoration

To request maps showing tributaries of streams in the barrens for which Roger is seeking local names.

For advice on the feasibility of suggesting proposals for monitoring projects on barrens during the November PA Botanical Symposium.

Will give David potential dates for a Pilot workday after contacting Deb Landau.

Will complete workday report for July 12 at Goat Hill.

Will contact Rick Hartlieb to propose that we be allowed to add a combination padlock to Goat Hill gate from parking lot. He will also request an update on acquiring direct access to Goat Hill from Ridge Rd.

Will facilitate providing access to NCP for Maggie Park, Towson University student doing research on the Southern Pine Beetle infestations.

Will follow up with Sally Willig about NCP plant guide.

Will remind Henry of need to submit reports for recent workdays.

Will follow up with John Conlow about iNat park staff training and eventual public training session.

Will request a copy of the maps of unnamed stream tributaries for Roger Latham's naming project.

Will complete online ATV training.

Will pull together a detailed proposal for FLSLB to partner in the PA Master Naturalist program.

Will decide whether to register FLSLB for tabling at the PA Botanical Symposium gathering, November 2-3.

Responsible for updating the Google Sheets contact file and Dropbox txt file.

### Tracy Raymond

Will schedule Outreach Committee meeting.

### David Ross:

Will convene Restoration Committee meeting soon after August 24.

Will contact sawyers (Mike, Henry, Kent) to offer reimbursement for last set of chain saw chains and identify sizes for should Board agree to stock replacements (for Mike, Henry, Kent, Andy and Sarel).

Will walk Goat Hill with Jim Herr to discuss fall mowing.

Will pursue options for enhanced monitoring of Barren Brook with David Arcscott.

Will contact Tom Murphy about Rose Trail bridge, trail work, and ATV training.

Will complete online ATV training.

Point person for administrative initiatives.

Kent Wagner:

Will complete online ATV training.

Henry Whitesel:

Will complete workday reports.

Bill Whittaker:

**C) Items Considered**

**Welcome and Agenda**

We convened at 7pm at Nottingham County Park and approved the agenda with a few additions.

**Next Meeting Date**

Proposed: Sunday, September 23 from 4pm-6 at NCP  
Alternative: Conference call, Thursday, September 20 7:30pm-9  
Chris to confirm after checking with Tracy and Bob.

**Activity Schedule**

- August 23, 4:30: PPF Monthly Conference Call -- theme is recruiting board members

From PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/8367926054>

By telephone: +1 646 876 9923 or +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 836 792 6054

(There is no "Participant ID" so if you are asked for it, just press \*)

Chris and David plan to listen in.

- August 24: TNC/Game Commission meeting at Lower Chrome, 10pm; all Board members welcome

At gate off State Rd.

Molly expects Pat McElhenny, Rocky Gleason, John Kunsman, (possibly) Tony Davis, Wilson King and Bob Foulk, Bob Gray, Chris Hoess, David Ross and Kent Wagner.

We hope there might be a brief opportunity at end of meeting to touch on TNC plans for Upper Chrome, NCP and Goat Hill.

### **Reports of Committees**

- Restoration Committee

Chris will complete workday report for July 12 at Goat Hill

David has posted workday report for August 3 at New Texas

David will schedule a committee meeting soon after August 24 to work out a fall work day schedule. In addition to the evolving plan for Lower Chrome, our work will need to consider the transfer of the TNC property at Goat Hill (most recently on target for September), trail work at Upper Chrome, the timing of the timber harvesting at NCP as well as potential engagement at other serpentine sites in the region (see below).

Chris will contact Rick Hartlieb to propose that we be allowed to add a combination padlock to Goat Hill gate from parking lot. He will also request an update on acquiring direct access to Goat Hill from Ridge Rd.

Chris will facilitate providing access to NCP for Maggie Park, a student at Towson University doing research on the Southern Pine Beetle infestations.

- Science Initiatives

Chris will facilitate providing access to NCP for Maggie Park, a student at Towson University doing research on the Southern Pine Beetle infestations.

Sally Willig has agreed to be lead author of a plant guide for NCP. She has returned comments on the draft outline Chris sent her.

### **Business**

- Volunteer reward: provide saw chains for sawyers active during the year

Emerging from the July 12 work day, we agreed that our regular sawyers should not have to bear the cost of the having access to sharp chains; the nature of our work dulls chains much more rapidly than typical sawyering. We authorized spending in the neighborhood of \$100 to reimburse Mike, Henry and Kent for their most recent purchase of one set of chains each. We will also consider a proposal at our next Board meeting to have on hand a replacement set of chains for each of the saws used by Mike, Henry, Kent, Andy and Sarel. Chris will alert Tracy to the approval of the expenditure. David will contact our sawyers.

- Mutual aid to Pilot (firebreak and wood lily protection) and Cherry Hill

The Board approved Chris negotiating with Deb Landau the details of a workday at Pilot. We'd transport one of our Billy Goats to facilitate the relocation of a firebreak (Deb to act as sawyer) and work with a

team of Maryland and FLSLB volunteers to clear a thicket and set up cages to protect what Chris believes to be a rare stand of wood lilies. Chris to contact Deb to identify potential dates to share with Restoration Committee.

The Cherry Hill barrens (half way between us and Soldiers Field) is on land owned by a private camp. Camp alums led by veterinarian Sandra Laden have been working with MDNR and Wayne Tyndall. Chris will propose to Outreach Committee that we organize a joint outing to tour Cherry Hill and one of our preserves to share maintenance and monitoring strategies.

- Stream names for Roger Latham (making GNIS entries)

Roger has asked for help in identifying names local residents have been using for tributaries of streams in our barrens with the goal of updating GNIS entries. Chris will obtain copies of the maps Roger has been using so that we can compare with the maps in use for flood plain, stormwater control and other local planning.

- Trail Planning at Upper Chrome

We hope to find a way forward, after the August 24 meeting, to take advantage of the trail-building and wildlands management expertise of recent volunteers Sarel, Kendra, Jed and veteran Kent for conversations that might lead to a draft proposal for enhanced public use of Upper Chrome including tweaks to the trail layout and providing additional informational material. The goal is to look for low hanging fruit while conversations among other stakeholders proceed.

David has proposed having Sarel draft an interim plan; Jed has expressed interest in making trails more mountain bike friendly; we have long discussed the need to separate equestrians and hikers in boggy sections.

Molly noted the valuable role played by mountain bike clubs on other TNC properties (e.g., Moosic Mountain). We also wondered if Goat Hill might not be fruitful terrain for dedicated mountain bike trails.

- Scouts-unified approach: can we coordinate with Camp Horseshoe in a more effective fashion? Are they maintaining their own serpentine barrens? Can this be extended to contacts with other scout camps on serpentine in Maryland?

Chris noted a pattern of scout camps located on properties that include one or more Serpentine ecosystems. He'd like us to pursue conversations with the managers of these campus to discuss strategies for monitoring and maintaining these sites.

- PA Botanical Symposium gathering, November 2-3

Chris has registered; will consult with Roger Latham and Tracy and decide whether it is feasible to pay for a table to solicit proposals for monitoring projects on one or more of our barrens.

**Adjourned** at 8:10.