



Education Standing Committee – Abbott Marshlands Council  
**Minutes – 12 July 2016, Tulpehaking Nature Center, 10 AM**

**Present:** Carol Brown, Stephanie Fox, Kelsey Kane-Ritsch, Greg Lattanzi, Kelly Rypkema, Kay Widmer.  
**Absent:** Karen Harrison, Mary Leck, Bill Guthrie, Mike MacEwan, Charles Eyster, Jenn Rogers

**1. June 14, 2016 minutes were approved.**

**2. The next meeting Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> 10am at Tulpehaking Nature Center**

**3. Updates**

Mary Leck is doing well. We hope that her good progress continues.

Water Trail/Upland Trail App's: Kelsey Kane-Ritsch demonstrated the app from the “Travel Stories” site and explained how it works using gps data from phones. Much discussion followed about how to proceed with this project. A sub-committee was formed of Kelsey, Stephanie, Greg, Kelly, and Mary to select 20 points for the water trail, imagine audio content and pictures, and submit it for review. They planned to meet on Tue. July 26 or Thur. the 28<sup>th</sup>. Kelsey reported that the company wants information by July 20<sup>th</sup>, although she is sure we can delay this a bit. Greg reported that there is a sound-buffered room at the museum that would be good for recording purposes. Kelly will contact Mercer County Community College to see if anyone such as an intern from their TV/Video program would be able to work with us on this. We decided that one voice should narrate throughout, preferably a deep-toned one. The sub-comm. selected dates to meet in late Aug., to coincide with a canoe trip on the 28th coordinated by the Flucks, who we hope will help us select places along the waterway for narration. We decided to separate the water and land trails. The land trail will highlight 20 sites at some distance apart, probably suggesting a car tour with recommendations for hikes at various places. Kelsey can be reached at [Kelsey@drgreenway.org](mailto:Kelsey@drgreenway.org). She will investigate the costs involved in this project. Each of the two trails will entail a down payment and upkeep.

Kelsey showed us that after the app is opened, a picture and brief intro of the site pops up based on the user's gps data point. Then it shows pictures and plays audio for 20+ stops, with 3 minutes of audio for each location. It ends with a brief exit audio. We want to include interviews, sound effects, such as animals, and historical as well as modern pictures and cultural information. Interviews should include Warren and Charlie for recent historical information, Greg for Native American site use information, Mary Leck for water and plant ecology information, and a child for current interest.

White City Presentation: Suzy was unable to attend today. She is working on contacts for this.

Lesson Plans: Judy was unable to attend today. She and Kelly are working on these contacts.

**4. Business**

Signs: Brief discussion of the Hunter Research estimate ensued. Kelly reported that she learned that we have \$1000 to use from the signage grant, which could pay Pritchard, plus \$12,000 to make the signs. She is able to pool the two grants. It is still unclear, however, what “consulting” includes; only 15% of the grant money can be spent on consulting. We are still exploring this. The Marsh Executive Committee will be discussing this signage project in detail at tomorrow's meeting. Our role here is to work with Hunter on signage content.

River Days. Program ideas for River Days (Sept-Oct 2016) were discussed. Kelly needs to submit a form to D&R Greenway by July 20<sup>th</sup> in order for us to then get the \$1500 from the William Penn grant to support programming for River Days. The following is a list of possible programs for this period:

Sept. 25 – canoe trip, coordinated by the Fluck’s

Oct. 15 – possible one-way canoe trip

We discussed the possibility of REI or EMS conducting demonstrations of canoeing or kayaking here at slack tide; they would provide all equipment and safety personnel.

Oct. 15 (tentative date) – Family Fun Day

Oct. 21 – Photography show opening, “Voices of the Marsh”

Additional plans with no specific dates set at this time:

White City presentation: Suzy working on

Lenape cooking demonstration

Flint napper presentation

Musical presentation: Judy is contacting Trenton Historical Society on this

We discussed the possibility of including some or all of these in Family Fun Day or in one of the canoe trip days. Availability of the people involved will dictate this.

Stewardship Agreement: We discussed revisions to the document, included below.

p. 2. In Preamble, change “historic” to “cultural” to reflect current language

p. 3. In “Purposes and Goals...” part B. delete “a Plan coordinator and/or,” to reflect the fact that we have many separate partners, with their own budgets and grants opportunities, making combining budgets difficult or impossible and oversight of any one person also very difficult and/or ineffective.

p. 4. Under “Marsh Cooperative Stewardship Council Activities” G. change “annual” to “periodic,” since with 4 meetings per year an annual report is impractical.

Minutes: Carol Brown

#### **Committee Members**

Carol Brown 609-896-0834

Stephanie Fox - 609-924 5705 (Kingston)

Bill Guthrie - 609-737-2630

Karen Harrison - 609-275-8318

Greg Lattanzi - 609-984-9327

Mary Leck - 732-821- 8310

Michael MacEwan - 908-789-0259

Jenn Rogers - 908-422-3797 c

Kelly Rypkema - 609-303-0704

Kay Widmer - 609-737-9468

Judy Winkler - 609-802-3894

Advisors – Michael Stewart - 609-758-7838; David Byers - 609-882-5045; Jack Koepfel - 609-730-0615