

NHC Education Subcommittee Minutes 4-26-21, 5pm-6pm

Attendance: Christine Putnam, Emily Luebke, Michael Rodemeyer, Bruce Gatling-Austin, Nicole (County Staff)

1. Report about progress on Landowner Welcome Packet
  - A. Notification process from County
    - a. Christine shared a spreadsheet created by county of 1700 land sales in 2019-2021 in 3 conservation focus areas - NorthWest, Rivanna Corridor, and SouthWest mountains
    - b. Selecting properties for landowner packets - 1700 is too many!
      - i. Agreed on trial run of about 25 landowners
      - ii. Ask county if they can provide data on acreage and whether there is overlap with important site
  - B. Draft of cover letter (created by Michael)
    - a. General approval of cover letter
    - b. Suggested changes
      - i. Use btyl link to direct landowners to NHC website with mentions that BAP and Landowner resources can be found in sidebar
      - ii. Change language to indicate their land is in conservation focus area, not important site
  - C. Brochures
    - a. ACE - Ches reports they have many brochures. Kim points out that the program is not currently funded, so we will gather more info from Ches before deciding whether to include.
    - b. Natural Landscape brochure - Christine has a few dozen
    - c. PRISM - has offered brochures
  - D. Resources Page (link on NHC webpage)
    - a. Agreement that it needs revision
    - b. Divide into 3 topic areas: general information, advice on land management (what public can do on their own), and incentive programs (ways to get help - both financial and expert advice)
    - c. Note: Some organizations may have information that can be put into different categories - ok to have more than one link in this case

- d. Suggested for inclusion (in addition to some resources on the current page): PRISM, ACE, PEC, [James River Consortium Streamside program](#), VA Working Landscapes, [Natural Landscape brochure](#)
2. Report about progress on identifying areas for reduced mowing and getting the word out about Darden Towe.
  - Christine contacted Blue Ridge Young Birders to invite them to help monitor
  - Christine visited - reduced mowing is less extensive than she thought and there is no signage

## TASKS

Michael - create second draft of landowner cover letter

Michael and Bruce - work on new draft of Resources Page

Christine - contact county about adding acreage and possibly indicator of whether a property overlaps an important site to spreadsheet of land sales

Emily - follow up with Ches about funding for ACE and whether it is a good idea to include brochure in packet

Christine and Emily - work on organizing spreadsheet and coming up with 25 property owners for initial landowner packet

Christine - Contact Piedmont Virginia Bird Club and email Albemarle County School Board about reduced mowing on school grounds

Emily - visit at least one county park to look into reduced mowing opportunities

Michael - stop by Darden Towe. Possible drone footage?

Christine - follow up on help from PEC with mailing packets

Christine - more follow-up on PRISM or Natural Landscape brochures?