

**Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership  
Education, Outreach, & Research Committee  
Minutes - July 12, 2021**

**Committee Members present:** Kate Conlin, Beth Girshman, Rick Peltier, Joe Novak, Keith Nislow

**Others present:** Lisa Hayden, Henry Art, Robert O'Connor, Whit Miner

4:01 meeting called to order

Approval of minutes from 3/29:

- all in favor

Approval of minutes from 5/17:

- all in favor

The committee discussed their desired qualifications of a part-time web contractor to be listed in posting, which included:

- SEO knowledge
- Overhaul the existing website
- We would do the links, images, and content
- Ideas of what we want on the page, structure beforehand, a site map
- A working group to do this?
- ARC GIS story map, of the whole project?
- Ask each standing committee what they would want on the website
- A clearinghouse
- Goals of the partnership could be different parts of the page
- Something people want to see and use
- Local person preferred
- Experience with natural resources, conservation
- Website could make use of questions, to point people to information regarding tourism, lumber mills, sustainable forestry operations, for example
- DCR list of local wood producers updated?

Letters of support from towns for Forest Legacy Program:

- Beth sent for Conway, will send template as an example

Mission statement and priorities for the year:

- Kate will re-send mission statement, comments due by end of July

Brochure:

- Almost done, grant examples needed to add, regional

Outreach to local organizations:

- Executive Committee will discuss

Updating of MTWP Plan:

- Committee feedback ideally by end of October. Beth and Kate will work on suggestions.
- Listening sessions. After an event? A seminar or lecture?
- Doug Tallamy's student at UMass as a speaker? Keith Nislow as contact. Desiree Narango researches oaks, with focus on caterpillars and birds. PhD with Doug Tallamy at UDel now at UMASS with Susannah Lerman
- GCC or BCC for space, or Memorial Hall in Shelburne Falls
- Or a high school? Mohawk Regional? Hoosic Valley Regional? Businesses talk about their startups there
- What's our budget?
- Possible dates - 12/4,5,11,12 - 5 hours including set-up
- Joe will contact Hoosic, Kate will contact Mohawk Regional
- Invite Stockbridge-Munsee to participate

Mohawk Trail Woodlands Center:

- Hank proposes an environmental planning project for students to help MTWP evaluate its goals for a Center next fall

Sept 14th webinar:

- Speaker ideas needed for Lisa, people who received grants

Meeting adjourned at 5:54 pm.