

10-24-16 Agenda for SGH Leadership Team Meeting

BOARD MATTERS

- * Quarterly reports needed
- * Annual memberships
- * Status of Treasurer and Secretary positions

RECAP OF HIKE & HELP THE HEMLOCKS

REVIEW OF 2016 STRATEGIES & ACTIVITIES TO DATE

- * Education – Clinics, Facilitator Workshops, festivals, other presentations; also report on USFS Foothills Landscape Collaboration meeting
- * Public Communications – articles published, new printed materials -- directional signs, rack cards, window posters, chemical tear sheets for retailers, revised Safari instruction sheets
- * Service – treatment projects, participants, trees treated, Facilitator visits
- * Saplings – rescued, adopted, ready for adoption, donated; also first hemlock restoration project on Toccoa River 10/15/16

REVIEW OF 2016 FINANCIAL MATTERS TO DATE

- * Financial summary
- * Current status of grants and other major donations

2016 STRATEGIES & ACTIVITIES – THROUGH NOVEMBER 30

Education

- * Hemlock Help Clinics & Facilitator Training Workshops
- * Fairs & festivals
- * Community programs, outreach to specific audiences
- * Youth programs

Public Communications

- * Print media –articles, publicity for training and projects
- * New materials needed?
- * Bio-control materials?

Service

- * Current Facilitator corps
- * Hemlock treatment projects – scheduled events, help needed, equipment/supplies needed, mountain goats needed
- * Hike & Help the Hemlocks w/BMTA, September 24 at Stanley Creek near Cherry Log
- * Availability of treatment products, injector repairs, acquisition of additional injectors
- * Evaluation of EZject injector, new model in process
- * Beetles available

Saplings

- * Rescue, potting, raising, adoptions
- * Planting – reforestation along trout streams w/TU, hedges for insectaries
- * Status of permit to dig on national forest, other digging sites

2016 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- * Future use of funds
- * Annual appeal coming up

Remaining USFS Meetings

North Atlanta: Saturday, October 29, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center, 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford, GA 30519

Chatsworth: Tuesday, November 1, 6:00–9:00 p.m. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, 1175 Cohutta Springs Road, Crandall, GA 30711

www.fs.usda.gov/conf
www.tinyurl.com/FoothillsLandscapeCollaborate
www.communityremarks.com/conf/index.php

- Sharing a sense of place
- Providing sustainable recreation opportunities
- Managing healthy forests, fish & wildlife habitats
- Caring for unique habitats
- Protecting communities from wildfire
- General comments



FUTURE SGH ORGANIZATION – AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Observations -- SGH is in our 7th year of operation and has grown steadily in membership, resources, and scope of services while remaining faithful to our original mission, vision, goals and guiding principles. Our Leadership Team is blessed with extraordinarily dedicated, talented, and experienced members, and the composition has been remarkably stable over the years, with the exception of the non-board positions of Secretary and Treasurer. We can be justifiably proud of the widespread public awareness we have raised concerning the hemlock issue, the thousands of people we have served, and the tens of thousands of hemlocks we have helped save on public and private land.

As we look forward, the challenges will be increased organizational efficiency, effectiveness, capacity, continuity, and personal satisfaction among our Leadership Team members and other volunteers. On the next page there's a list of the programs we currently, or may in the future, have in place. I'd like to ask each Leadership Team member to review it and start thinking about several things:

1. What do we really want SGH to be doing? Are there some things on the list we should eliminate or cut back on? Are there some things we should add?
2. Would it be a good idea to migrate to a model of distributed responsibilities such that one or more individuals serving as program managers would take complete ownership of a program or part of a program? And I would be engaged with any "adopted" programs only as needed/requested or with any that don't get adopted right away? Should program managers be board members or should they be non-board members who report into the board? Other hybrid arrangements?
3. Are there some skills, talents, positions we need to have for a strong, well functioning organization that we don't currently have? And if so, where/how should we seek them?
4. And finally, given that none of us is getting any younger, we need to give some thought to bringing in more young members and engaging them on a trajectory of growth toward leadership positions.

We are a team, and a very excellent one, and I'm so grateful for and to each of you. As we consider our future, please do some creative critical thinking about any ways to make SGH stronger and better and our own involvement with it more personally rewarding. **ALL YOUR OPINIONS, CRITIQUES, AND IDEAS ARE GREATLY VALUED.** I'd like to use our October meeting primarily for discussing these questions, but if you have any feedback you'd care to share before then, it would be most welcome.

NEXT MEETING

Sunday, January 8, 2017, 1:00 p.m. at 37 Woody Bend

PROGRAMS

Education – east & west?

- Hemlock Help Clinics & Facilitator Training Workshops
- Fairs and festivals
- Community programs/presentations, outreach to specific audiences
- Youth programs
- Educational materials

Service: Treatment – east & west?

- USFS
- DNR
- Neighborhood & charitable
- Availability of chemicals
- Soil injectors
- Bio-control support

Service: Saplings

- Rescue projects
- Distributed sapling nurseries
- Hemlock restoration on trout streams
- USFS cooperator for hybrid Carolina hemlocks (future?)

SUPPORT FUNCTIONS

Public Communications

- Hemlock Help Line
- SGH web site
- Publicity for training & events
- Articles for newspapers/magazines
- Newsletters and annual report

Membership – Secretary?

- Volunteer coordination
- Facilitator engagement
- Outreach & partnerships
- Special event planning
- Annual appeal

Financial – Treasurer?

- Income and expense records
- Quarterly reports and annual information filing
- Grant acquisition and administration
- Disbursements
- Cost share program (future?)