

Notes for 4-5-2020 SGH Leadership Team Meeting

Since we're currently under a shelter-at-home order, and the heavy demand on teleconferencing services has made them difficult to use, this meeting was held "virtually" through a series of one-of-one phone calls. Participants included Bob Pledger, Buz Stone, Chris Curtin, Derrick Morris, Darrell Sheffield, Dave Teffetteller, Jim Wentworth, Kim Wood, Jim Heilman, Jimmy Stewart, Billy Johnson, David & Cindy Wasileski, Elliott & Brenda Segall, Steve Jones, and Donna Shearer. John Shearouse, Ray Lorenzi, Wynn Mott, and Jen Houts were not available, but we'll try to catch up in the next few days.

BOARD MATTERS

* COVID 19 Awareness – Please continue taking care of yourselves!!!

- CDC guidance -- www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention.html
- Georgia's shelter-at-home order <https://www.11alive.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/georgia-statewide-shelter-in-place-order-what-to-know/85-acfca58a-05f2-4a95-be60-ccb88eb056ab>
- USFS area closings
<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1121362160102&ca=68eec6e0-212d-4936-88de-4960e4ee4267>

* **Your quarterly activity reports** – These are always due within 10 days after the end of each quarter.

2020 STRATEGIES & ACTIVITIES FOR 1ST QUARTER

Note: Some quarterly activity reports are still outstanding, so this is a draft and will be updated as soon as all are accounted for.

- * All 19 HWA-infested Georgia counties in native hemlock range now served by our Hemlock Help Program.
- * Hemlock Help Line available 7 days a week with 227 calls handled to date.
- * 2 Hemlock Help Clinics with total of 36 attendees:
- * 2 Facilitator Training Workshops with total of 34 new Facilitators trained.
Total active Facilitator corps = 382 in Georgia and 84 in other states.
- * 2 customized training class for 11 volunteers and public land managers:
- * 2 presentations to civic/community groups with 43 attendees:
- * 6 articles / news items written by, with the assistance of, or about SGH published in newspapers/magazines.
- * 46 Facilitator visits made with charitable treatment of 448 trees.
- * 4 hemlock treatment projects with 58 volunteers treating/retreating 160 trees:
- * 3 hemlock rescue projects with 12 volunteers, 131 saplings rescued and potted for use in educational/service activities or future adoption:
- * 31 hemlock saplings adopted; 11 saplings donated to municipalities / schools / nonprofits.
- * 2 hemlock sapling planting projects with 38 volunteers planting 27 hemlock saplings and 54 other native trees/shrubs:
- * 10 soil injectors repaired/refurbished; currently have 7 on the workbench for repair.
- * Total of 1,560 volunteer hours logged.

2020 STRATEGIES & ACTIVITIES FOR 2ND QUARTER

Based on Governor Kemp's COVID 19 stay-at-home order through the end of April and a cautious approach to the month of May endorsed by today's meeting participants, all of our group events and projects are being postponed through May 30. When it gets closer to that time, we'll re-evaluate the situation for June and after.

- * **Facilitator Training Workshops** – Classes will be rescheduled for Rabun/towns, Cherokee/Gordon, Fannin, White and Pickens.
- * **Presentations** – We will reschedule the Clinic presentation to the South Carolina Upstate Master Gardeners and are in process of preparing a special presentation targeted Atlanta audiences.
- * **Hemlock Camp Meeting** – It is especially sad that we need to postpone this event, but it seems the right thing to do for now. We may reschedule it for some time this fall.



*** Communications**

- An article will be sent to all the north Georgia newspapers encouraging people to use their stay-at-home time to inspect their hemlocks and contact us if their trees need help.
- A *Hemlock Happenings* newsletter will also be published this month to all our members recapping our activities from last fall and this spring and letting them know the plans for the next couple of months.

*** Treatment Projects** – Once we’re able to get back out in the woods for treatment projects, here are the ones that need to be scheduled or rescheduled:

- SGH-USFS treatment project on Noontootla and Lake Winfield Scott Beach Area
- SGH-GATC treatment project on new Appalachian Trail HCAs
- SGH-GCA treatment projects on Cartecay and Amicalola Rivers
- SGH-YMCA hemlock treatment at Camp High Harbour
- SGH hemlock treatment at Project Chimps

*** Facilitator Visits** – In order not to completely shut down our services, Facilitators are encouraged to continue making Facilitator visits to help other folks, based on your own comfort level and observing social distancing.

*** Saplings Projects**

- Project Chimps -- The sapling rescue/potting project needs to be rescheduled for some time this fall.
- Soque River – The sapling planting or other project with Savannah River TU needs to be rescheduled.
- Large potted saplings that need homes – If anyone would like to adopt some 4-5 foot saplings, please contact the Hemlock Help Line 706-429-8010.

*** Goat Island Project** – We received a substantial donation from a Rabun County resident who lives on Lake Burton, asking that the funds be used to treat the hemlocks on Lake Burton’s Goat Island and other public or Georgia Power property around the lake. These funds will not be used for private properties. The donor also asked us to investigate shoring up the bank of the island where erosion is threatening to topple some large hemlocks favored by bald eagles. We will make Facilitator visit to the island to evaluate these projects as soon as it is safe to do so.

INCOME AND EXPENSES THROUGH MARCH 31, 2020

INCOME	Contrib Indiv	Contrib Member	Contrib Found	Contrib Non Profit	Contrib In Kind Goods	Contrib In Kind Svc	Contrib Corp	Gov Reimb
2020 Inc by Source	\$115.00	\$11,595.00	\$511.86	\$1,256.80	\$0.00	\$320.00	\$657.65	\$0.00
2020 Inc by Percentage	0.80%	80.21%	3.54%	8.69%	0.00%	2.21%	4.55%	0.00%
2020 Total Income	\$14,456.31							

EXPENSE	11 Educ Hemlock Clinics	12 Educ Facil Trng	13 Educ Comm Progs	16 Public Comm	14 Saplings	15 Treatment	51 Gen Admin	52 Memb & Fund Raising
2020 Exp by Category	\$0.00	\$1,142.68	\$618.19	\$2,858.80	\$1,180.38	\$4,246.80	\$225.23	\$109.40
2020 Exp by Percentage	0.00%	11.01%	5.95%	27.54%	11.37%	40.91%	2.17%	1.05%
2020 Total Expenses	\$10,381.48							

Total Spending to date in FY 2020: 96.78% for educational & charitable service programs.
3.22% for administrative, membership & fund raising.

Cumulative Spending FY 2009-2020: 91.76% for educational & charitable service programs.
8.24% for administrative, membership & fund raising.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPEAL THROUGH MARCH 31, 2020 – 33 donations totaling \$3,840

FUTURE 2020 MEETING DATES

- * July 12 (second Sunday)
- * November 1 (first Sunday)