

Meeting Notes for 4/13/22 SGH Leadership Team Meeting

This quarterly Leadership Team meeting was held virtually via ZOOM, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Participants were Bob Pledger, Buz Stone, Chris Curtin, Darrell Sheffield, Dave Teffeteller, Jim Wentworth, Jim Heilman, Kat Carey, Betty Larsen, Holly Cochran, Derrick Morris, Al Battle, Lee Stewart, Pat Hickey, Jon Jones and Donna Shearer. Ray Lorenzi, Jody Webb, Jim Heilman, Elliott Segall, and Nick Gardner were unable to attend.

BOARD MATTERS

* **Opening** – Chairman **Buz Stone** called the meeting to order. The minutes from our 1/9/22 meeting were approved, and the agenda for the 4/13/22 meeting was approved.

* Leadership Team Reports

- **Buz** recently completed a treatment at Black Rock State Park with **Bob Pledger** and **Al Battle**. A total of 62 trees were treated with the help of 5 DNR rangers and 12-15 volunteers.
- **Chris** completed a sapling dig on private property in Cherry Log. Around 65 saplings and small trees for restoration were gathered and treated and are housed at the Gilmer nursery.
- **Dave** has planned the Cartecay treatment for April 23, 2022 and needs volunteer paddlers.
- **Derrick** reports all is going well in the education program. Two classes have been completed and the remaining have been added to the schedule. Carrie and Renee (new teachers) are doing great. Several class attendees have expressed interest in borrowing injectors, etc. Derrick is working to coordinate hands-on portion of training in targeted areas to increase participation.
- **Jim W.** treated several hundred trees at the experimental station in Blairsville. His next project is scheduled for Alex Cove.
- **Todd** did an excellent job finishing 2021 tax filing and making the shift from fiscal year to calendar year.
- **Betty** is gearing up for Bear on the Square and the Trout Festival. Volunteers are still needed for the Trout Festival and the Blue Ridge Arts Festival.
- **Jim H.** has permission from the Mayor to place two outdoor signs on city property.
- **Jody** made it to a recent treatment project and may soon consider resuming membership coordinator duties.
- **Donna** went to Brevard for 5 huge trees, 4 are already spoken for. She also picked up 50 small trees, 20 of which will go to UNG insectary. The Sustainability Club will plant these trees.
- **Nick** restored the website, everything is working and updated on the Schedule of Events and About Us pages.
- **Ray** is volunteering at Bear on the Square.

ACTIVITY REVIEW Q1 2022

- * **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 269 calls handled to date
- * **2 Facilitator Training Workshops** with total of 3 new Facilitators trained
Total active Facilitators = 402 in Georgia and 93 in other states
- * **2 Presentations** for 27 adults
- * **8 Customized training sessions** for 18 volunteers and public land managers
- * **3 Articles / news items** written by, with the assistance of, or about SGH published in newspapers/magazines
- * **50 Facilitator visits** made with charitable treatment of 199 trees
- * **7 hemlock treatment projects** with 71 volunteers treating 1,798 trees
- * **3 sapling rescue projects** with 16 volunteers, 220 saplings rescued and potted
- * **63 hemlock saplings adopted**
- * **28 saplings donated** to schools, churches, nonprofits
- * **2 hemlock sapling planting projects** with 6 volunteers planting 4 hemlocks
- * **5 soil injectors** repaired / refurbished
- * Total of **1,779 volunteer hours** logged



FINANCIAL REVIEW Q1 2022

* Financial Summary as of 4/13/22

INCOME	CONTRIB INDIV	CONTRIB MEMBER	CONTRIB FOUND	CONTRIB NONPROF	CONTRIB IN KIND GOODS	CONTRIB IN KIND SERVICE	CONTRIB CORP	GOV REIMBURS
2022 INCOME BY SOURCE	\$0.00	\$24,196.84	\$1019.72	\$414.63	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
2022 INCOME BY PERCENTAGE	0.00%	86.32%	3.64%	1.48%	0.00%	4.28%	0.00%	4.28%

EXPENSE	EDU HEMLOCK CLINIC	EDU FACIL TRAINING	EDU COMM PROGRAM	PUBLIC COMM	SAPLINGS	TREATMENT	GEN ADMIN	MEMB & FUND RAISING
2022 EXPENSE BY CATEGORY	\$66.21	\$244.53	\$3,918.25	\$1,466.77	\$927.47	\$4,643.65	\$551.71	\$791.07
2022 EXPENSE BY PERCENTAGE	0.53%	1.94%	31.07%	11.63%	7.36%	36.83%	4.38%	6.27%

* **Spending Ratio as of 3/31/22:** 45.17% Education, 44.18% Charitable Service, 10.65% Admin

* **Current Ckg Acct Bal as of 3/31/22:** \$78,936

* **Report on annual membership appeal** as of 3/31/22 – 65 donations totaling \$20,770.

* Other grants and dedicated funds on hand:

- Private donation, Rabun \$14,191.19
- Lake Burton Civic Assoc \$724.14
- Lake Rabun Foundation \$1,004.9
- Laurel Ridge \$391.41
- Gheesling Scholarship Fund \$825.00
- Rock Creek Project \$1,212.50

UPCOMING TREATMENT PROJECTS IN 2022

* Hemlock treatment projects

- 4/23 Alex Cove- Union County **JIM**
- 5/15 Anna Ruby Falls-White County **JON**
- 6/12 Anna Ruby Falls-White County **JON**
- 7/16 Waters Creek and Upper Waters Creek-Lumpkin County **JIM**
- 8/7 Dicks Creek-Lumpkin County **JON**
- 8/13 Lower Dicks Creek and Miller Creek-Lumpkin County **JIM**
- 9/18 Gold Mine Branch-Rabun **JON**
- 10/9 Tallulah River Campground-Rabun County **JON**
- 10/15 Helton Creek-Union County **JIM**
- 11/6 Upper Cliff Creek-Rabun County **JON**

UPCOMING SAPLINGS PROJECTS IN 2022

* Sapling rescues/potting

- **Buz** was given permission to dig about 100 saplings in the Persimmon community of Rabun County. Volunteers are needed.
- **Donna** reported that we have at least 8 property owners in the east and 9 in the west who have offered us permission to dig saplings on their property, and we need to schedule digs soon enough for the little trees to stabilize in their pots before fall festival season.

UPCOMING EDUCATION 2022

*** Facilitator Training schedule – via ZOOM or FreeConferenceCall**

HABERSHAM/HALL	4/30	Derrick will coordinate teaching duties with Cary Allen and Renee Gracon
PICKENS/CHEROKEE	6/4	“
DAWSON/LUMPKIN	7/9	“
MURRAY/WHITFIELD	7/30	“
DADE/WALKER	9/10	“
DADE/WALKER	10/1	“
ALL COUNTIES	10/22	“

*** Fairs & festivals**

Bear on the Square	4/23-4/24	Dahlonega	Betty
Blue Ridge Trout and Outdoor Adventure Festival	4/30	Blue Ridge	Betty
Blue Ridge Arts Festival	5/28-5/29	Blue Ridge	Betty
Trail Fest	9/10-9/11	Dahlonega	Betty
Appalachian Trail Day	9/17	Brasstown Bald	Betty
Foxfire Mountaineer Festival	10/1	Clayton	Buz
Georgia Marble Festival	10/1-10/2	Jasper	Jim H.
Hornaday Conservation Weekend	11/12	Blairsville	Elliott Segall

OTHER BUSINESS

*** Rabun Donations**– A private property owner has provided a very generous donation. She would like the funds to be spent in Rabun. As we are unable to treat hemlocks on Lake Burton because they were all found to be dead or beyond saving, discussions are underway to dedicate funds for treatment at Lake Seed and Lake Tugaloo (GA Power properties). The scope of this project would be massive- see previous meeting notes detailing discussion of how to tackle the project (bids, etc.). Another donor may potentially dedicate funds for the Chattooga corridor, and we may be able to pair the two donations to complete a large project on the Chattooga River- recruiting paddlers to treat from the water.

***Facilitator Program Manager Position-** Discussion was tabled as several members felt there may not be a need for this position, but a solution to relieve Donna of these duties needs to be reached. Members are encouraged to read the job description and provide feedback by the end of the week.

*** Hemlock Camp Meeting / Annual Meeting** – The decision was made not to hold this event in its traditional format, but ideas are under consideration for a Facilitator appreciation event.

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

JULY 13 7:00-9:00 VIA ZOOM

OCT 12 7:00-9:00 VIA ZOOM