

OPERATIONS REPORT — JUNE 2023

WRAPPING THE BOG

JUNE 21

With the end of the fiscal year upon us, we are wrapping up the accounting of bog funding from the North Carolina Native Plant Society's (NCNPS) B. W. Wells Grant. Only \$900 of the \$4,433.54 came from that grant, but it was crucial to the success of the project. That \$900 went to items specifically itemized in the budget submitted to the NCNPS in the grant application. The original budget came to a total of \$3486.35 for a project of much smaller scale than the Grow Getters eventually moved forward on. As mentioned before, Vicki found a sign solution that saved \$800, but the big boost came from donations received after the work had begun. Also, some plant and landscape material was donated by members of the Grow Getters because they really wanted to see this work move forward. While they haven't yet acquired every plant destined for the bog (these are not that easy to come by), enough is in the ground to show the serious intent.

The final work before reporting to the NCNPS is the crafting of a video from the extensive video and still image documentation that Judith Moore has turned in. This will strengthen their ability to meet their own mission, and will be powerful evidence of the work done in this project.

STAFFING

Kudos are due to Kevin and Trisha for another excellent Chalice Camp. One parent wrote this Monday to tell us his child was ready to come back for another week!

Trisha has left the employment of the Asheville school system, where she was serving as In School Suspension supervision. This will make her available for more hours, if we would be able to make good use of that time. This week she crafted her first video (not without errors, but it was her first attempt), so her training in all things church administration continues to move forward. Her success with this equates to less reliance on (extremely valuable volunteer) Kathryn Burleigh's time.

Chelsea continues to gain confidence in the software and in our procedures and structure.

PLEDGE FULFILLMENT & OTHER BUDGET OBSERVATIONS

As of today, we have received \$63,940 of next year's pledge commitments. I will need to move another \$7200 over to savings soon to preserve next year's pledge gifts. The concerts grossed us only \$160... the net, after paying our sound professionals, is likely only \$100. We promoted on Facebook, in our own news, flyers, and through WSQL radio... but attendance was paltry. Lots going on in this town— I think, going forward, we should only stage musicians known in the area if the goal is to raise money.

VISION SUNDAY

I sat in on the Campus group of visioning on this day. This was an engaged, thoughtful group, with lots of good ideas and "sense of who we are." Of particular note was a question about establishing a Legacy Endowment Fund... which benefits the growth of UUTC, not an outside group. This is

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something we have been building towards, first in policy, by changing the language so that more than one endowment fund can be overseen by the single Endowment Committee, for example. It is definitely time to start moving forward with this idea. Timing is of the essence.

GROWING UUTC

In contrast to the concerts, the Facebook post on Wednesday's Solstice Service gained us a couple immediate "followers." More earth worshippers!

Wonderful Wednesdays are booked through November, and December will be an "off" month. Very much looking forward to what the team pulls together.

In Membership, Susan Slocum is ecstatic about the Pathways feature in Realm... it's essentially a great way of ensuring no steps are skipped. Trisha had her first day with this on Tuesday. Also in membership, I was reminded that Kristin Leesment has expressed interest in serving in this way (rotating off of the pledge drive, handing that off to Krista Moore). I think we have a path forward. The next Membership class is scheduled for August 12th, and you will see better messaging on that going forward.

In Covenant, RK