

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

### I. Organizational Matters

#### A. Call to order

B. Roll call (Present: Frank Pratt, Larry Damman, Don Dukerschein, Jim Heffner, Mark Conrad, Kevin Smaby, Jason Brazzale, Jessica Tomaszewski, Robert McNeill, Reed Kabelowsky, Scott Lettman, Trent Tonn, Kyle Zenz

Excused: Tara Rueth, Katie James, Tashina Peplinski, Kyle Walker, Rob Bohmann)

#### B. Agenda approval or repair (Kevin motion, seconded by Scott - Agenda approved)

#### C. Review committee mission statement

- a. The mission statement of the Youth Conservation Congress Oversight Committee is as follows:

- to review and implement the Wisconsin Youth Conservation Congress Strategic Plan 2017-2025 that was approved and adopted in 2017
  - make recommendations on the implementation of areas within the plan
  - review and discuss possible strategies for implementation
  - support the WYCC Coordinator to oversee and manage the youth delegates and mentors
  - organize and oversee outings and activities for the WYCC youth delegates and mentors to help them experience and understand the different roles and duties involved in both volunteer groups and DNR staff to continue the traditions of conservation in the State of Wisconsin
  - gather information and recommendations to present to the District Leadership Council meetings
- (Motion to approve by Frank, Don D. Seconded – mission statement approved)

- D. Public comments Citizens who wish to address the committee should contact the committee chair (Trent Tonn at 262-534-1962) prior to June 7, 2021. (none submitted)

### II. Information & Action Items

- A. YCC Coordinator Update – Kyle Zenz (Emailed report)

## **YCC Updates, March – June, 2021**

### **YCC Delegates**

#### **We currently have 41 YCC delegates:**

- Including 10 graduating seniors
- 26 counties represented
- All districts, except district 4
- 10 new mentors since 2021

## YCC Virtual Gatherings

- **March:** Speaker: Jeff Williams, Topic: Wood ducks and wood duck boxes (18 YCC delegates, 10 adults)
- **April:** Speaker: Kari Lee-Zimmermann, Topic: spring hearings and WI Conservation Congress (13 YCC delegates, 9 adults)
- **May:** Speaker: Craig Ziolkowski, Topic: Mead Wildlife Area (9 YCC delegates, 9 adults)
- **June:** No virtual meeting held. Share videos about Bat ecology and caves in Wisconsin.

## YCC Outreach

- YCC news release continues to be circulated through newspapers, conservation newsletters, online links.
- Article about the YCC in the educator edition of Snapshot WI newsletter.
- WI Dells Open Season Sport Show. 2 YCC delegates and 2 mentors volunteered at the show. \$3,000 was raised to support the YCC by the gun raffle.
- Virtual Youth Summit through Field Edventures. Kyle presented on facebook live about the YCC. The Northern Waters Environmental School also presented and YCC delegate, Logan Christenson talked about his school and community project.
- The Outreach committee continues to share our YCC newsletter and photos online.
- The YCC banner to be used in conjunction with the TOW trailers was featured at the Mondovi Conservation Club Kid's Fishing Contest.

## YCC Activities

- Wood duck boxes. Following our March virtual gathering, several of our YCC youth installed wood duck boxes.
  - Rick Wayne (WCC delegate, Pepin Co.) cut and donated wood duck box kits for YCC delegates. Rob Monette & Tom Siebert from WWA also donated wood duck box kits for YCC delegates.
  - A video was made featuring Rick Wayne and his son, showing how to assemble the wood duck box kit.

## YCC Upcoming Opportunities

- Future Trappers of WI camp, July 28-31. We have at least 3 YCC delegates signed up to attend. Following the camp, they will send in a form with their information to Rob Bohman (Friends of the WCC) and he will reimburse \$100 for completing the camp.
- Raised at Full Draw Bowhunting Camp, July 29-Aug 1. Two, \$125 scholarships will be awarded to YCC youth who attend this camp. WCC delegate, Mark Conradt leads this camp.
- Wisconsin Conservation Leadership Corps. YCC seniors were encouraged to apply to this program through the WI Wildlife Federation.

- Snapshot WI – opportunity to monitor cameras for the Elk project.
  - YCC summer virtual fishing contest using the FishDonkey app. Currently have 10 participants. Will continue to promote this contest to the YCC.
  - YCC summer program – trout ecology on the Namekagon River, August 6-8.
  - Waterfowl Hunters Expo, August 28<sup>th</sup> Oshkosh. Opportunity to volunteer for event and volunteer at the TOW trailer.
- E. Final discussion and thoughts on YCC Alumni and age limit extension before presentation of the idea to the DLC
- a. A bit of hesitation of the new young adult coming in – but would need to work out details. For now we are asking permission to start working on this program.
  - b. Also wanting to build the pipeline to make sure we have conservation-minded young adults into
  - c. 100% behind the Alumni program
  - d. Minimum age? New 3<sup>rd</sup> grader – in favor of leaving it open. It is going to regulate itself.
  - e. **Motion to take this format to the DLC, Motion by Jason, seconded by Reed.... Motion carries.**
- F. Final discussion and thoughts on a YCC monetary request for program usage before presentation of the idea to the DLC
- a. Blanket statement about obtaining money from the YCC friends organization
  - b. Would be a smart thing to have a Friend's WCC fund report on a regular basis.
  - c. By statute we can't have funds available. That is where the friend's funds came to be.
  - d. Looking to set the process.
  - e. 2 cautionary - \$250 – very small amount. Where is the budget confirmed? \$2000 annual
  - f. **Motion by Reed that change working we go to a \$2,000 annual expenditure, second by Frank. Motion Carries.**
  - g. We can't spend it all at once = \$250
  - h. Manage by objective in DNR budgeting - too much fine detail will hinder us.
  - i. Constrained to put on events for youth if there isn't a DLC meeting beforehand.
  - j. **Proposal for \$500 from Green Count to Support the YCC Summer Program – Motion by Frank, second by Kevin.... Motion carries.**
- G. Discussion and review of the Summer YCC Trout Program hosted by Frank Pratt in Hayward, WI
1. Program schedule - Max Walter = happily on board – can walk along with everything, but they can't handle the equipment - because of handling protocol we will need to start no later than 10 am – moving along fine
  2. Volunteers/ staffing
  3. Equipment/ Supplies/ and donations needed

Reviewed protocol – based on a Covid-19 related plan. Have a minimum fee (\$10 or \$50 - return or not return) to make sure they show up. How do we want to make the decision. Frank waive the rental fee if everyone buys the fish fry on Friday night. People bring their own food.

How are the kids going to get there? Driving during the event? Not okay from a safety perspective. Keys given at the end of event.

Definitely need to have a permission slip in place. We are also working on a code of conduct agreement too.

Extra degree of difficulty to ask for and need the budget. I don't want to drive people away. I think we should nix the money.

For additional planning - sending minutes/planning/ with sub-committee.

Committing to fish fry and our needs you to honor your commitment. Make sure us adults tip.

H. Discussion and planning of other summer youth events like: (YCC Summer Fishing Contest, WTA Youth Trappers Class at Trees for Tomorrow, and Waterfowl Expo in Oshkosh on August 28th)

I. Discussion on October's Fall Meeting and Youth Activity

Green light to Kyle to organize something for October 16<sup>th</sup> in a central location.

### III. Member Matters

Thank you, Larry for Fish Donkey. Thank you to Kyle & Trent for all their all work.

Mark – looking forward to the summer

Frank – Thanks to the committee for the support of the workshop. Education that is hands-on and intragenerational is going to magnify the education.

Scott - excited for all of this to take place. Looking forward to the summer event.

Please thank Green County Delegates for the donation.

Jason – Hoping to help for the summer. 10 WIFA scholarship to graduating seniors.

Kevin – Rules & Resolutions - Reed brought up in-person hunter safety program, plus doe season for youth = non-binding decision and make their decision.

Reed – Thanks to Kevin for the support. We are all volunteers and we all do great work!

Trent – I can't speak highly enough for all you do. Kyle with all her hard work

#### IV. Adjournment

Mentioned by Kevin, Reed Second, Motion approved 8:43.