



## *Ney Nature Center: Scorecard 2021-2026*

### Building & Lands

- Overall Plan for land units is complete
- All Prairie Restoration Complete – especially pleased with the additional Wetlands developed in partnership with USFW.
- Ameri Corp – Forestry Intern – (Full time for one year)
  - Forest Inventory at Ney, then other LS County Parks
  - Ney Detection and Mitigation of Invasive Species, especially Emerald Ash Borer
  - Calculation of Carbon Offset
- Continue to maintain buildings in current state until program use improvements are identified; e.g. fixing up the Ney Garage for an established Maple Syruping boiling

### Thank You:

- Trail and Yard Mowing, we have a volunteer that trims – multiple positive comments
- Tractors and equipment
- GIS Access

### Current/Future Needs:

- Master Plan – Needed for Regional Park Status, we have all the inputs
- Water and Restrooms at the Homestead



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### Programs and Education

- FYE 22 we ended with the highest program participant numbers ever, we topped our highest numbers pre-COVID by 1,700 (FYE19 3,662; FYE22 5,362)
- Day Camps reached capacity, we added second weeks and increased our cap of students
- Summer field trips, new this year utilizing increased staffing we accommodated two groups at one time on multiple days – Reduced our estimated unable to accommodate number to 1,130. This includes cancelations mainly due to weather & not enough staff
- Program space improvements, e.g. sun shades (grant from Treasurers in Town Thrift Store), Eagle scout teaching station at Homestead, New floating pond dock (Memorial donations & Henderson Community Foundation Grant)

### Thank You:

- New trailer and Kick sleds in partnership with LS County Parks

### Current/Future Needs:

- Restrooms and water at Homestead
- Classroom space to bring field trips indoors during inclement weather – Storm Shelter



## *Ney Nature Center: Scorecard 2021-2026 (cont'd)*

### Organizational Development

- Committed to Recruit, Develop, Retain Staff
- Completed a Compensation study and adjusted staff wages based on the results
- Provide continuing education
- All staff members are active members and board members of the MN Naturalist Association
- Board and Staff have a goal centered around development of a volunteer program

Thank You: John King for being our Commissioner representative and sharing his voice in our policy & strategic plan development and attending Board meetings as he is able.

### Current/Future Needs:

- Staff Health Insurance Plan



## *Ney Nature Center: Scorecard 2021-2026 (cont'd)*

### Financial Sustainability

- COVID PPP received in FY20 & FY21 making up for lost program revenue
- This fiscal year we implemented membership fee increase, program fee increase and building rental increase
- We carry a 56% donor retention, in FY22 we had 79 Annual Campaign donors & 81 Fall Fling donors.
- Member Households 241 for FY22
- Strong local grant support; specifically project dominated.
- FYE 2023 Annual Campaign we raised over \$37,500, Closing our \$20,000 budget gap.
- Fall Fling Fundraiser, held Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> at Revival on Main in Montgomery, speaker Naturalist, photographer, and author Stan Tekiela, was a great success.

Thank You: Le Sueur County's yearly financial commitment to Ney - In FYE we leveraged the county's contribution dollar for dollar.

### Current/Future Needs:

- ~~\$20,000 gap in our budget due to COVID Canceled Fall fling in 2020 and staff compensation adjustment~~ This need has been met through a phenomenal Annual Campaign and end of year donations.
- Funds for Staff health insurance plans