

Arden Town Forest Committee Minutes 1/10/11

Members present: Carol Larson, Jennifer Borders, Elizabeth Varley, Deborah Ricard. Meeting was held at Jennifer's house.

Old Business

- MINUTES approved from 12/13/10
- ORDINANCE #4: changes --Concern was expressed on how to enforce ordinances. A standardized procedure should be created. Jen will call Steve and as him to call Amy about what NCC Police procedures in these cases are. A meeting should be set up to discuss this possibly also including Civic Committee.
- RENZETTIS: Logs and brush are still blocking the drainage ditch. Elizabeth will talk to Larry about trying to get this taken care of. This was mentioned in the March 2010 Town Meeting as a problem for storm drainage.
- CHIPS: Mullinax leasehold area chips still need to be spread.
- GIRDLING: A tree is girdled with a supporting wire on Marsh Road. Joad called and was told that the pole belongs to At&t. Do we need to follow up?
- GRAFFITI on rocks in the woods: a second letter should be sent to the parents of the teens telling them that they will have 30 days to clean it up, specifying the preferred method of cleaning, and informing them of the fines/consequences if it is not accomplished within the framework. Jennifer will send this once we have clarified the procedures of enforcement with the NCC Police Liaison and Steve Threefoot.
- LETTERS TO RESIDENTS: It was proposed that letters be sent to all residents bordering the woods (both Arden leaseholds and other communities bordering the woods) reminding them of the woods policies. Specifically, stating that no dumping, run-off into the woods, and encroachment, etc. are allowed and informing residents of the new penalty structure once we have clarified the procedures for enforcement with the NCC Police Liaison and Steve Threefoot. Also needed is a letter on how and why to control non-native invasive plants. This should be sent along with a brochure of information on local natives. Jennifer said that she would look into this.
- SHAW PROPERTY: A letter concerning the Peg Shaw property should be drafted and sent to the Trustees so that the next time the leasehold is transferred the problem of shed encroachment is addressed. Mention of the Norway Maple should be removed. Elizabeth said she would do this.
- DE STATE GRANT: A planting plan has been submitted.
- ARDEN PAGE SUBMISSIONS: Elizabeth will put an article in the Page for February on Lesser Celendine.
- ADOPT-A-PLOT idea: This should be put on the back burner for now, but not forgotten.
- RECRUIT VOLUNTEERS: Jen and Carol will put together a list of projects needing volunteer help to submit to local Boy Scout troops and other volunteer groups such as schools and Americorps. Some ideas for projects include pulling ivy, monitoring/clearing paths, planting, etc.
- FOREST COMMITTEE MEMBERS: a slate of six candidates has been completed for the election in March. The candidates are: Chris Junk, Pat Barry, Katrina Streif, Carol Larson, Debbie Ricard and Jennifer Borders
- FOREST TRAILS: Debbie will ask the dog group that meets on the Arden Green to monitor that side of the forest for problems and Elizabeth will ask Roger Garrison to continue to monitor the Sherwood side.
- UNITED WATER TOWER: Carol sent a seven point memo to Steve Threefoot, but has not heard back at this time. Elizabeth said the Committee should look at the MSDS sheets for the materials being used.

New Business

- MINUTES ARCHIVE: Jen should email Danny Schweers all Committee minutes so that they can be archived for the Town.
 - BUCKINGHAM GREENE: Elaine Schmerling and Connee McKinney should discuss whether the action taken by Elaine's friend in Buckingham Greene might impact the ongoing law suit.
 - COMMITTEE CALENDAR: An official calendar for the Committee needs to be created. Carol will email Jen with the outline.
 - WEED-AND-WALK group has started up again organized by Elaine Schmerling and Carol. Targeted areas include Marsh and Miller in the grant area and parts of Ardentown forest.
 - BUDGET: April 1st is fiscal year end. We need to remind Budget Committee that even though we didn't use entire budget this year, we will need it in future budget years.
- The next meeting was not scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Borders, Forest Committee Secretary