

## **Arden Forest Committee Minutes 5-15-13**

Members present: Carol Larson, Jennifer Borders, Roger Garrison, Katrina Streiff, Ed Rohrbach

-- MINUTES:

Minutes from the 4/17/13 meeting were approved.

--BOUNDARIES/ENCROACHMENT:

2409 Woodland Lane –Bob Wynn: Katrina agreed to begin negotiations with leaseholder for an easement swap of land so that he can access their garage and the Town gets something in compensation. Boundaries are still not clearly marked. Once these are marked, a large nail should be driven at the points to make sure they are secure. A bucket with a flag placed to mark potential location of fencing should make it clear to leaseholder that an agreement with the Town is necessary by a certain date. Otherwise Forest Committee will put up a permanent fence. A cost analysis of using the cement pad near the circle or a path along the creek side would help to make clear what is most feasible for the Town to finance.

2302 Hillside -monitoring construction on forest boundary.

2033 Marsh: dumpster moved. Soil damage needs to be repaired.

2305 Hillside: Ponte property- fence in the woods has been removed. Committee should mark forest boundary.

--BUDGET:

Roger is taking over information file.

Trees were purchased for Arbor Day.

--CALENDAR:

--COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/EDUCATION:

June *Arden Page* submission should include clear information and an history of the on-going issues at 2409 Woodland Lane.

--DRAINAGE:

Poor drainage noted and photographed at 2409 Woodland Lane: increased erosion.

--GRANTS/PROJECTS:

No current news.

--INVAISIVES:

Celandine finished for the season. Multiflora rose, poison ivy and wisteria rising.

--PATHS/MAINTENANCE:

--REMOVALS/MONITORING:

Lani Gibson in Buckingham Greene is getting an opinion from State Forester Kyle Hoyd.

--ADMINISTRATIVE:

Next meeting: June 19, 2013, at 7:30 PM at the BWVC.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Borders, Forest Committee Secretary

### **Addendum:**

### **Arden Forest Committee On-Going Task/Idea List**

As of 4/17/13

--BOUNDARIES:

Theis, Renzetti, Broadbent and others all have encroachment issues.

Get surveys of leaseholds from the Trustees so that the Forest Committee can mark boundaries. The County has a survey of all greens and forests.

--CALENDAR:

--COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/EDUCATION:

Carol proposed an Arden forest website. Perhaps Larry Strange can help us with this. Also, a Facebook site could be created for the forest.

A website for volunteer recruitment is <http://volunteerdelaaware.org>. Jen said she would look into this.

Arden Fair booth ideas: create a calendar with photos of the Arden woods. Sand wood slices for coasters, etc.

Volunteers --are needed for the following: spread chips, cut multiflora rose, ivy clear paths.

Letters-- 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 Danny Schweers. Also needed is a letter on how and why to control non-native invasive plants, water run-off problems with suggestions to solve these issues. This should be sent along with a brochure of information on local natives, rain gardens, better species of plants for forest edge. Jennifer said that she would look into this.

Enforcement Letters: list 1.) the violation 2.) the fee 3.) consequences 4.) send a second letter with an action date 5.) Call and send letter to police/community liaison to contact violator 6.) Justice of the Peace Court 7.) Fine imposed. A list of procedures can be created online through Google Docs so that all can share in creation and editing. Coordinate this with Civic Committee for consistent enforcement.

JOINT MEETING WITH COMMUNITY PLANNING NEEDED: on hydrology, invasives, leasehold acquisition to add to forest/open space. To mitigate issues suggestions are 1) plantings and rain gardens slow run-off. 2) drywells 3) rain barrels 4) green roof workshops. Issues to talk to Civic Committee, Community Planning about are which areas in the roadways contribute to problems: talk to Trustees about which leaseholds need to be watched?

Signage was discussed to help raise awareness of Forest Committee projects. A sign at or near the Marsh and Millers site stating, "Forest Committee Restoration Area," was proposed.

--DRAINAGE: 1905 Millers --Scheflen: Pipe is still there. Driveway is paved, machinery stored. Discussed moving pipe over the phone. He was informed that our land manager and DNREC said it was not a good site for a rain garden due to the slope of the land, and that his small back yard would have to be the location of a new rain garden. Other sites of concern are Tocco and Aumack leaseholds.

We are waiting for news about the Buckingham Greene lawsuit settlement.

--GRANTS/PROJECTS:

--INVAISIVES (see web-based calendar for updates)

--PATHS/MAINTENANCE: Poison Ivy suppression needed near Marsh and Millers, Highway path, behind Heidi Hoegger's. Chips need to be spread near Mullinax property.

Katrina proposed starting a Forest Committee "Tool Library" in which community members would be able to borrow tools such as a flame weeder, metal detector, or weed wrench. Use of a shed or part of a shed would be needed. The feasibility of getting a shed on BWVC property or elsewhere was discussed.

Jen said her son could work on some of the bridges this summer for a Boy Scout project.

--REMOVALS/MONITORING:

--ADMINISTRATIVE:

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