

March 15, 2017 --Forest Committee Meeting Minutes, 5:00 Buzz

Attending: Jill Althouse-Wood, Carol Larson, Jen Borders, Absent: David Jones, David Nordheimer,

Administrative

- Approved minutes from March meeting.
- Budget/Finance Report. We have spent all our money for the fiscal year. We are over-budget by \$565. Jen will call David Michaelson about our overage. We also have see if our figures agree in the Buckingham Green account.
- FOYA Post weed control policy and hazard tree policy on the Arden Website. We continue to send our meeting minutes to Stephanie Polkas after the minutes have been approved the following meeting.

Current Grants/Projects in Progress

- Buckingham Green Project: Submitted CWQIG (Community Water Quality Improvement Grant) today. New Castle Conservation District is sponsoring our grant. Since we are being innovative, we applied for the research arm of the grant. We will have to monitor our water for a year. Foresite will meet with Buckingham Green Homeowner's Association April 25 if we get the grant. Jill will pass around a clipboard at Arden Town Meeting to get volunteers to help clear invasives from the area where work is happening. We have two bids to execute Foresite's plans: Rich Cropper and Merit. Weather dependent, the earliest we can start on this project is May.
- Katrina's Grove: March 18th—invasive plant pull is planned, weather dependent. We will make a decision on Friday. Jill will put out a call on Facebook and Arden Next Door. Carol ordered some plants for the grove. March 25th as the alternative date.
- 2409 Woodland is still on hold.
- Carol worked with Civic Committee and applied for U&CF (Urban and Community Forest) Grant for trees that need to come down and replaced.
- Arden Woods Riparian Buffer Project: 5 Mill Race Road. Arden will discuss and vote on purchasing the property at the March Town Meeting. The owner has offered to sell to Arden for \$100K for 1.6 acres, even though he has multiple offers on it he will wait for the Arden vote. Put on Facebook Forest of the Arden page. We put map and a description of the importance of riparian buffer on the town website.

Boundaries/Encroachment

- 2409 Woodland. They are parking as close to the house as they can. Though, it is still partly on the path.

Drainage/Erosion

- Carol bought trees to put in the swale at Peg Shaw's house to help with runoff in that area.
- Per Broadbent leasehold. Nothing to report on the channel by Lizzie's house. If it's eroding, it's not dramatic.

Invasive Control

- The ivy pulling party on March 4 went well, all things considered. We had Frank Jost, Katrina Nelson, Tyler Matera and Pam and Jackson Politis. We pulled for about two hours and knocked a pretty big chunk out from the NE corner of Woodland a radius of about 30-40'. That added up to a big trash bin and and 9 contractor bags. There is still more to do in there. At least one more big patch and a whole bunch of vinca.
- Invasive pulling at Katrina's Grove on March 18
- Carol directed Greg of Redtail to Sherwood Forest Restoration Area to work on the invasives we need to get rid of before the active construction begins. We need to schedule an invasive pulling for the Buckingham Green area especially multiflora rose. Jill will bring clipboard to pass at town meeting for help with the invasive pulling.

Paths/Maintenance

- Jen will contact Boy Scout (Troop 99) Cameron Clothier about his project and the timing considering we have the Sherwood Green Restoration happening around the same time and place. Discuss access problems and timing.
- Still waiting to hear from Boy Scout (Troop 99) Brant Wesley about his project.
- Need to monitor the new Marsh Road connector trail.

Removals/Monitoring/Care of Trees

- See the U&CF Grant in Grants section.
- Sent Lubin Letter. Didn't hear anything.

Community Involvement/Communications

- Carol went to a conference of Wetlands on March 11

- Arden Page: put in dates for Science and Climate March, Arbor Day Celebration, Cristina Watershed April 8 (9-11 PM)
- Arbor Day, Possible Hazelnut Tree on April 30th at 4 PM.
- Tree Proclamation for Tree City to be read at town meeting.
- Website has a Riparian Buffer Information and more Buckingham Green.
- Talk to Linda about bumper sticker.

New Business

- Carol would like to develop a compressive tree ordinance with Civic and Trustees.

Proposed next meeting date: April 19, 2017, 5 pm, at the BWVC.

Respectfully submitted, Jill Althouse-Wood