

April 19, 2017 --Forest Committee Meeting Minutes, 5:00 Buzz Attending: Jill Althouse-Wood, Carol Larson, David Jones, Absent: Jennifer Borders, David Nordheimer,

Administrative

- Approved minutes from March meeting.
- Carol Larson continuing as chair, Jennifer Borders as Treasurer, Jill Althouse-Wood as secretary, David Jones as education outreach
- Keep meeting time the same 5PM on 3rd Wednesday of the month
- FOIA and conflict of interest

Current Grants/Projects in Progress

- Buckingham Green Project: We will find out about the CWQIG (Community Water Quality Improvement Grant) this week. 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. Buckingham Green Homeowner's Association will discuss and vote for our construction access easement this week. Nature Conservancy has agreed to help with the monitoring of the stream in conjunction with the grant.
- Katrina's Grove: We will plant persimmons and Service Berries at Katrina's Grove for our Arbor Day celebration. They are down at the site and ready to be planted. Jill will get the birch beer and ice cream, straws, cups, and spoons. Jill will put it on Facebook and NextDoor. April 30th at 4PM
- The U&CF (Urban and Community Forest) Grant for tree removal—We got the partial amount we (Civic committee and Forest Committee jointly) asked for. The only forest part is the oak that needs to come down 2409 Woodland. We are in the process with Civic to take care of the oak. It will happen within the month. Dividing up the grant money between the two committees will be a fun problem for treasurer David Michaelson.
- Arden Woods Riparian Buffer Project: 5 Mill Race Road. the Village of Arden approved the purchasing the property at the March Town Meeting. Carol met with Kevin Donnelly from the New Castle County Conservation District, and he is going to get a quote to remove the stone and restore the area. Naaman's Creek Water Shed Association had a meeting with Eileen Butler who is the DNREC natural area's program manager. Maryanne Cinaglia, Carol Larson, Eileen Butler met with a representative resident Nate Cloud on Indian Fields about conservation easements on the remaining properties on the buffer contiguous with the parcel that Arden bought. The common interest in protecting the creek. Jill will ask Larry

Strange about his Martin family foundation for watershed foundation for possible monies for this project.

Boundaries/Encroachment

- 2409 Woodland—nothing to report
- We have some more money this year. We should talk about getting another survey or dealing with the encroachment on the survey we already have including Sunset Farms. We need to approach the people with the most encroachment and talk about where the markers are over at Sunset Farms. Possible fencing. Will talk about this when more people are at the meeting next month.

Drainage/Erosion

Nothing to report. Have to ask David Nordheimer next meeting. Carol looked at Sheflens. She thinks the gully that comes down St. Martin's and into Sheflens has stabilized. Carol will pull together past photographs.

Invasive Control

- We need to talk about bamboo trench behind 2107 The Highway. Carol has talked to Ron from Ron's Tree Service about an estimate for trenching. We should get more than one estimate.

Paths/Maintenance

- Dave Jones walked the new paths on the Avery Annex and he thinks the bare floor is open to erosion. He thinks that we need leaf litter and/or saw dust down to protect the soil especially during wet seasons. Needs follow-up with stabilization. Can Jen Borders talk to Troop 99 about this project? Dave Jones will do some research on our options. Dave Jones is willing to help do the work.
- Tree down across Avery and also some trees/branches on the Arden Forest side near Lizzie's that need attention with a chainsaw. Carol will go out and work on it.

Removals/Monitoring/Care of Trees

- See the U&CF Grant in Grants section.
- We will talk to Ron's Tree service about trimming the Lubin tree.

Community Involvement/Communications

- Arden Page: Progress on the parcel purchase. Carol will forward the letter she has been working on to Jill and Jill will rewrite for the page.
- Talk to Linda about bumper sticker. Jill still has to do this.
- ACRA Summer Program water study. Dave Jones will lead this. To take place on July 6th 10 AM-12 PM. Jill will talk to the ACRA summer committee about specifics
- ACRA Summer Program project legacy will commence July 19 and 20. Possible new bridge. Carol will think up possible project ideas.

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

Respectfully submitted, Jill Althouse-Wood