

Agenda
Arden Forest Committee Meeting
Wednesday, July 19, 2016, 5:00 PM
BWVC

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

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting: We approved meeting minutes with a few changes.
2. Administrative/Finance: Jen (treasurer) was absent. Will get report next time.
3. Current Grants/Projects
 - Buckingham Green restoration project: Still waiting on the dispersal of funds to start project. We are lining up the Nature Conservancy to do the stream study which would be less expensive than paying a biologist to do it.
 - Katrina's Grove: No new plantings at this time. Will wait until fall.
 - 5 Mill Race Road: Settlement has gone through, but we are waiting until news from Jeffry Politis about the lawsuit before we proceed to clear the land of stone. We need to wait anyway, because we want to plant as soon as the land is clear of stones and fall is a better time for planting.
4. Boundaries/Encroachment
 - Civic will replace part of a fence on Miller's Road.
 - Still need to get quotes for fence at Sunset Farms border.
5. Drainage/Erosion
 - Scheflen Property: Some silt behind the property near crosswalks, but not much change in the area otherwise. The drainage solution seems to be working.
 - Considering throwing some rocks into forming gullies we see to slow down the running water. Discussed possible plantings at Miller Road near Mill Lane
6. Invasives Control
 - Redtail resoration has been concentrating its efforts on the area near Buckingham Green area, but we need Greg to get back to Marsh and Miller to keep that area under control. He needs to keep monitoring that area as part of the job we hired him to do.
7. Paths/Maintenance

--Possible Path Study like Ardentown with WILMAPCO. Jill will talk to Elaine Schmerling of Ardentown to discuss how their project came about and how much of it was managed by WILMAPCO. What were the objectives and how could we harness a similar project for our path system—possibly in conjunction with civic community.

8. Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees

--Replacing the trees that Civic and Forest Committees removed as part of their grant will take place in the fall.

9. Community Involvement and Communications

—ACRA Summer Program Legacy project: The project is underway with a good number of students. More to report next month after completion.

—ACRA Stream Study Wrap up: David Jones worked with 8 kids from ACRA. They did tests of water quality and observed animal life in Perkin's Run. Results are that the water quality is good but biodiversity of the stream is down from what it has been in decades past. David felt that the experience was a positive one. The students were engaged (though an hour was their limit). They had good observations and questions.

10. New Business

--Carol would like to get together with Community Planning and Civic Committees to develop a tree plan for Arden. This would include plans of what we want to plant and where, as well as other points of tree management, on and around public spaces in Arden.

At 5:45 PM, we moved the meeting to Sherwood Forest where we took a walk to check out the invasives in the area where the Buckingham Green Project work will start. We also noted erosion. Walking further north, we checked out boundary markers and the newly completed Boy Scout Trails, including the refinished sign and new bench close to the bus stop on Marsh Road.

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 16th, 5 PM, BWVC