

Arden Forest Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 12, 2020, 7:00 PM

BWVC: In attendance: Jill Althouse-Wood, Carol Larson, Jeff Martin, Jen Borders
Absent: David Nordheimer, Meeting called to order 7:08 PM

1. **Administrative:** We approved January minutes with changes.

--Election Slate: We will ask David Jones, Jeff Martin, Ed Rohrback, Bev Clendenning
--Jeff needs to add a link back to Civic committee on the Indian Circle permit. Jeff and Carol will look at it to see what needs to be done.

Finance: --Nothing new for finances. Fiscal year is ending March 23. We have about \$3,000 left in the budget. We will look into hiring a surveyor, buying fencing material, GPS unit before the end of the fiscal year. Carol will call about the survey.

2. **Current Grants/Projects**

--Sherwood Restoration Project: Carol has been monitoring. Tadpoles are active. That is a good sign. Carol will bring data to Jeff to graph the data.

—2409 Woodland: Waiting for spring

--End of Hillside/Sherwood Forest planting circles: Jill will take photos on the 15th of the month

--Sent in grant agreement for Surface Water Management Planning Grant. Waiting for the purchase order from the state.

4 **Boundaries/Encroachment**

-- Carol has a list of encroachments she will address at town meeting.

--Sunset Farms is working on the sinkholes. We are going to put a line of flags up on the border of Sunset Farms before we put in our fence in 2020.

--Carol talked to Ken Morrison and he sent email to Bart Yoder about taking wood out of forest.

--Joyce Pierce, Christine and Don Montgomery at 2033 Marsh Road. They have a pipe draining into woods. Carol wrote them a letter to them.

--Marilyn Gray has a big fenced-in area in the woods. Carol wrote a letter. We approved the letter.

--Carol did some research, and we need a clearer ordinance about forest encroachment. We need to take an updated Ordinance #4 to town meeting to vote. Carol and Jill will work writing a new section to bring to the town.

--5 Mill Race Road—Still waiting for court case to be settled. Decision later in January?

5. **Drainage/Erosion**

--Nothing new

6. **Invasive Species Control**

--Greg from Redtail worked on N. End of Hillside and by Mullinax leasehold on Millers Road.

--Ron's Tree service removed bamboo near Mandy Tacco's property.

--Had a big crew take care of ivy behind the Bryan leasehold. 12 volunteers.

--Spotted Lantern Fly. Elaine Schmerling had a task force meeting to address trapping and prevention.

7. **Paths/Maintenance**

--Carol will give Jeff a thumb drive of bridge ideas.

8. **Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees**

--No removals at this time.

9. **Community Involvement and Communications**

--Arden Page: Watershed Clean-up, Earth Day festivities, Essay, Book Club, Part 2 of the Wildlife Certification.

-- Jill will put out another LEAF in March (Mid-March latest) before Earth Day. Electronic version for Arden. Jen will send out to bordering neighbors. We will do yearly with electronic version in Fall.

--Christina River Watershed Clean-up is April 4, with Raindate on the 5th

--Jen is talking to Mary Brent about having Wildlife Certified Leaseholds on the House and Garden Tour.

--Jill is working with Lori Athey for community Wildlife certification.

--We will talk with individuals in the community and the Buzz Ware Village Center to become Wildlife Stewards.

--Brainstorm Plans for Earth Day Party at the Buzz on April 22 at 7PM.

POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES:

-“Eco-Queen” or king. We need to settle on a name. “Environmental champion” for Arden gets recognized each year:

 Plaque with names for each year? Hall of Fame?

-Clothesline with earth day pledges. Drawings from kids.

-Essay Contest.

-Rain Barrels for awards: For the Environmental Champion or the Essay contest. If we decide folks don't want the rain barrels should we make this a raffle?

-Spotted Lantern Fly pinata

-Festive vessel decoration. We order reuseable cups to give away and decorate. Would ACRA be interested in sponsoring this one? We'd buy cups and gather supplies (I have a lot of bling stuff.)

-Kids ball pit: Research cost and how to make this practical.

COSTUMES: Dress colorfully (green?)

TABLES: information for Earth Day and Arbor Day

-Light Pollution Table: Info about how light interrupts insect life cycle and kills moths. Yellow LED light bulbs to give away. Pledge to pay attention to light pollution. Gardeners Gild?

-Arbor Day – Tree City Proclamation: Tree giveaway

-Certified Wildlife Habitat table: sign up and info sheets. Houses and Gild Hall on the ACRA Garden Tour. Jill will contact Lori Athey for possible information

-Spotted Lantern Fly Traps demo

FOOD AND DECORATIONS:

-CAKE: large decorated cake and/or cupcakes.

-Beverages: Invented cocktail with non-alcoholic version.

-Decorations: Jennifer Trees (art), decorate ficus in the room, Jill's new painting of the woods, Table coverings (possible GARDENING GILD).

10. **New Business--none**

Meeting adjourned 8:33 PM. Next meeting is March 11, 7 PM.