

September 17th, 2015 --Forest Committee Meeting Minutes, 4:00 Buzz

Attending: Carol Larson, Jennifer Borders, Katrina Streiff, Jill Althouse-Wood, Megan Murphy

Approved minutes from August meeting.

Administrative

-Budget/Finance: It was agreed that there didn't have to be a written budget report at each Committee meeting. New reports should be compiled as needed to keep the Committee informed and the Town Treasurer up to date. It is clear that the Forest Committee will go over budget this fiscal year due to emergency tree removals. This may mean tapping into the "prudent reserve" or using funds from other committees to fulfill our commitments this year. It was suggested that Megan add another column to the financial report for emergencies for clarification.

Current Grants/Projects in Progress

-Buckingham Greene: we are still waiting for Megan Gloyd, of Biohabitats, to provide an estimate on a proposal. Carol suggested that we look at other people also. She will contact Drew Hayes at Temple University.

-2409 Woodland/Schroeder grant: Next, Carol will contact Dale Tatom for bollards. Ed recommended 3.5' between bollards as a reasonable distance. Phil Fisher has agreed to accept a check from the Town in lieu of cash so that he can get started on the handrail. Excerpt of the "Arden Child" poem might be fitting for a stone inscription or plaque at the site. We should plan to do further planting in the spring.

Boundaries/Encroachment

-Schefflen proposal: His letter/proposal to the Committee was discussed again. Advisory seemed to be okay with this. Is a formal agreement needed, and if so, what form should it take? Schefflen wants the Committee to sign the proposal he sent. We will ask Pam Politis to review. Also, did he talk to DNREC about this?

-Survey of Sherwood Forest: it was decided to wait to do this since Bio Habitat or another company hired to help with the Buckingham Greene project may need to do this anyway.

-Parking in the woods at by the leaseholder at 1801 Green Lane is an on-going problem. It got better for several years, but now he seems to be parking in the woods routinely again. It doesn't make sense since there is unused parking on his leasehold. Carol said that she would give him a call.

Drainage/Erosion

-Lancashire Elementary is planting 5-6 trees to help mitigate run off down Naamans Creek.

Invasive Control

- Carol put together a brochure with the information on invasive plant controls. She will upload this to the Facebook site and ask Danny to upload to the Committee's web page on the government site.

Paths/Maintenance

-Hank Borders' Eagle Project to build a path around the water tower is waiting for approval by Boy Scouts' leadership.

Removals/Monitoring of Trees

-Oak in Sherwood Forest is problem.

-The DE Department of Agriculture is working on a "best practices" document to manage the emerald ash bore when it arrives in Delaware.

Community Involvement/Communications

-Arden Fair: we sold about \$100 net in bumper stickers, pins, plants, tee-shirts, etc. Non-flowering plants were not very popular, but we sold out of the turtle heads. Also, the “what-to-plant” poster was very popular, but not so much the brochures on invasives. For next year, we should develop a what-to-plant brochure to hand out. The left-over bumper stickers could be displayed at the Gild library and the Gild dinners.

-Katrina will be hosting “Forage and Feast” mushroom hunting and dining events again this fall, on Saturday, October 4th and 11th in coordination with a Philadelphia-based mycology club. Ardenites will be invited via the *Arden Page* and Facebook. The cost is \$40/person.

-October *Arden Page* submission: doggie doo etiquette in the woods.

Next meeting date: October 15th, 4 pm, at the BWVC.

Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Borders