

**Arden Forest Committee Meeting
Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 5:00 PM**

***These minutes have not yet been approved.**

**BWVC: In attendance: Jill Althouse-Wood, Carol Larson, David Jones, Jen Borders
absent: David Nordheimer**

1. **Administrative:** We approved February minutes.
 - Slate for election: Ed Rohrbach, Dave Jones, Dave Nordheimer, and Jeff Martin on our docket for the election.
 - FOIA website is down. We need to work on getting our minutes updated.
 - We have Excel sheet for volunteer hours. We need to keep track of hours we are spending.
 - Jill will ask Jeff Politis about town policy for emergency committee meeting. For example,
2. **Finance:** --Jen has no new invoices since January. We are waiting for invoices from Ron's Tree Services for work done cutting down hazard trees this week. We still have \$2800 in budget to use. We will try to get Ron's invoice in and possibly order some native plantings for the woods.
3. **Current Grants/Projects**
 - Buckingham Green Restoration Project: We have a big oak in the access route (Ron may have taken care of it. We haven't checked yet.) and a big beech that fell in the restoration building area.
Included in the Budget is the monitoring which we are required to as per our grant, but it is possible that we could farm that out to organizations who would do it for free or other volunteers. These include: survey benchmarks, photo journaling, diversity samples, survivability rates for plants, etc.
We need to clear invasives 40-50 feet on either side of the stream.
We still need formal bids on the final drawings.
Part of the budget is the removal of woodchips which could be a volunteer effort. We don't have a start date. Waiting on the bids. We are hoping for an early spring planting or early fall planting. We need the work to be finished just prior to planting. We can't finish the work and wait for planting.
 - Katrina's Grove: We need to hit some lesser celandine in this area.
 - 2409 Woodland: We are ordering rhododendrons for this area.
4. **Boundaries/Encroachment**
 - 5 Mill Race work is on hold because of the town lawsuit. We still haven't heard.
 - There is a car parked on the side at 2409 Woodland that extends past the driveway on a consistent basis. It may have a flat tire. We are monitoring.
 - No news about our new neighbors at 16 Ravine Road.
 - We need to keep an eye 7 Mill Race which has a tax debt and is abandoned. It may become an available property to acquire.

--Carol and Dave Claney walked the boundary at Sunset Farms in preparation for fencing. Carol made up letters for the homeowners and plans to visit them to let them know of impending fencing.

5. **Drainage/Erosion**

--We have plans to check on channels are erosion once the winter weather clears. Especially behind the Threefoot house and where Mill Road hits Miller.

6. **Invasives Control**

--Lesser Celendine is coming up. We are considering having Red Tail map it with an invasives map.

--Carol went to a class on invasives management at Morris Arboretum.

7. **Paths/Maintenance**

--David N. cleared some spots where trees fell.

--Ron's Tree Service cleared some larger trees across paths.

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

--Trees removed after big wind storm in early March: along path to Indian Circle and other locations in the woods.

--Carol checked Lubin's Oak in February. She will check it again soon.

--We need to monitor a beech in the forest at the end of Meadow.

--Carol took another class on how to determine if a tree is at risk.

9. **Community Involvement and Communications**

--ACRA Summer Program—Teri Hansen is in charge of programming.

--Arden Page—Upcoming events including the NCW cleanup April 14 and Arbor Day on April 28. Jill will submit. No dumping in the woods after all the storms.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 18, 2017 at 5PM at the BWCC