

Arden Forest Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 19, 2018, 5:00 PM

BWVC: In attendance: Jill Althouse-Wood, Carol Larson, David Nordheimer, Jeff Martin
Absent: Jen Borders

1. **Administrative:** We approved September minutes.
2. **Finance:** --Jen sent her report and will have a full report for us next month. We are waiting for a few bills from Redtail and Ron's Tree Service.
3. **Current Grants/Projects**
 - Sherwood Restoration Project: We are waiting on permitting from DNREC. Jeff seems to think this is a long process. Carol will follow up. The next step is now to advertise the project so contractors will bid. Those dates need to be set. (Misinformation in last month's meeting about the dates.)
 - 2409 Woodland: Carol has not checked pinxsterblossoms lately.
 - Katrina's Grove: Carol got a new blueberry bush for the area but has not planted it yet.
4. **Boundaries/Encroachment**
 - Nothing on boundary and fence. That is a late fall project. Waiting for leaves to come down.
 - 5 Mill Race Road. The lawsuit is working its way through the system. We may still go to court. Should be settled by the end of the year. We should know soon if we can work on it.
 - 1, 2 Mill Race sold. We are watching progress of development of these lots
 - Carol and Jeff did not visit the new neighbors on Ravine Road.
5. **Drainage/Erosion**
 - Carol and Jeff walked down to the stream near the Broadbent leasehold with Jeff Steen. They took note of the delta in the middle of Naaman's which indicates erosion. We will continue monitor this peninsula as well as the ravines in the area. Jeff Steen's advice to help the water flow was to add more riprap under discharge pipes and along stormwater ravines between Mandy Tocco's leasehold and the Founder's House and also at the discharge from the Broadbent trench drain into the ravine. He also suggested getting rid of macadam curbing alongside streets.
 - Jeff Martin, Carol and Jeff Steen met with Rhett Tayler from GPRS Inc on August 20. They can give an estimate to do the mapping of the stormwater once we get back to them of the total lengths of the streets in town and the length of the distance of the back-property line into the forest. WE are working on getting them those pieces of information. Carol talked to NCC special services about what mapping they already have.
6. **Invasives Control**
 - We are gathering information to address the upcoming Arden Town Meeting initiative against the use of glyphosate in our battle against invasives. We would like to keep it in our arsenal to use sparingly. Jeff and Carol will work on a prepared statement. Greg from Redtail has agreed to come and describe his process.

--We had a successful wine and weeding party on September 14. A dozen people pulled ivy in The Arden Woods down the path from Cherry Lane.

7. **Paths/Maintenance**

--Ron cleared another oak tree on the Sherwood side.

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

--An oak fell on Sherwood side. Ron cleared it.

--Carol checked on the oak tree near the Lubin property. It appears healthy.

9. **Community Involvement and Communications**

--We had a booth at the Arden Fair in which we gave out LEAF newsletter, literature about invasives, and the patch program. We also gave temporary tattoos to kids. We shared the booth with Delaware Watershed

--We have a full schedule of events coming up in the fall. These events (educational, social, and work) are part of an initiative to get more people invested in our forests. They will be part of the patch passport as well as helping us meet the educational requirements needed to get our National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat Certification. Jill made an event pages for each of these on Facebook.

- Sunday, September 23 7:00-9:30 PM, *Full Moon Owl Prowl and Bonfire*. Meet at the labyrinth on the Arden Green near corner of Millers Rd and Woodland Lane. (Jill sent the appropriate permit form to the Civic Committee.) Marshmallows,
- Saturday, September 29 at 10AM-noon, *Fall Wildflower and Pollinator Hike*. Meet at Ribletts', 2303 Orchard Road, Ardentown. Park at Ivy Gables.
- Saturday, October 27 at 11 AM. *Sherwood Forest Geology Hike*. Meet at Buzz Ware Village Center.

--Jill finished the LEAF newsletter. We mailed it to 70 neighbors (outside of the Ardens) who border our forests and distributed it with the Arden Page to all residents of the Ardens. It was available at our booth have it available at the Arden Fair.

--Jeff is still working on brochure for potential Boy Scout issues.

--Jeff will work on guideline/permit for Indian Circle for website.

October Arden Page—Jill will write up publicity for geology hike and patch program. We will also include a town meeting response as needed.

Composting: Jeff is taking a week long class on composting and will contribute in future with possible article in LEAF and workshop.

10. **New Business**

Larry Strange has been documenting hikes with his special camera gear. Once the leaves come down and we have more visibility, he will do some of Arden trails, starting with the Eagle paths in the Sherwood Annex.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 5PM at the BWVC

