

**Arden Forest Committee Meeting
Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 7:00 PM**

Via Zoom: In attendance : Jill Althouse-Wood, Carol Larson, Jen Borders, Jeff Martin, David Jones Visitor: Bev Clendening Meeting called to order 7:05 PM

1. **Administrative:** We approved May minutes.
 - Cecilia put fire permit online. Jen will talk about some changes to the online fire permit. Jen reviewed general state camping policy. Jen will send the regulations and notes to forest committee. We will table this issue for next time. Jen is going to do an outline of the issues for after dark activities.
2. **Finance:** No changes. Jen will be collecting data on volunteer hours. Jen wants a discussion of what info we are collecting and why. We talked about a google doc on the Forests of the Gardens FB page/ Arden Forests Page to track volunteer hours.
3. **Current Grants/Projects**
 - Sherwood Restoration Project: Carol has been taking readings. We have a fabulous survivability of the plants we planted. Carol must make sure data is in shape and get it charted. After July, we will do perpetual quarterly readings.
 - Dave looked at vertebrate and invertebrate in Perkins Run and found more of the same. He has not identified the tadpoles. Dave is asking the committee if we want to invest a phosphate meter and/or salinity meter. Dave has a TDS meter, and he wants to take readings with that.
 - 2409 Woodland: on hold. Dave and Carol will try to go this week.
 - End of Hillside/Sherwood Forest planting circles: Jill will take photos this week
 - Surface Water Management Planning Grant purchase order came through. Drew Hayes of Foresite called and said they are starting their information gathering. They haven't billed the town at all yet. Carol will get details from Drew for town meeting.
- 4 **Boundaries/Encroachment**
 - Carol came with a plan for Sunset Farms. She is sending the plan to the neighbors on the border. We debated applying for Schroeder Funds, and we all agreed we should try it. We discussed having an intern help us work on this project. We talked about partnering with Univeristy of Delaware and/or Mt. Cuba. Dave will call Mt. Cuba to ask about volunteers.
 - Christine and Don Montgomery at 2033 Marsh Road. They have a pipe draining into woods. Carol needs to talk to them. The Lubins also have a drain to the woods. Carol has not reported them to the county. Carol will check it out. --ONGOING
 - 5 Mill Race Road—Carol talked to Jeff. Still waiting for court case to be settled. Decision soon. Elaine Schmerling noticed a lot of invasives she is concerned about. We want to do an assessment. Bev Clendening would be willing to “adopt” that property once we are able to get over there.
5. **Drainage/Erosion**
 - Jill will talk to Dave Nordheimer to continue to monitor erosion at Lizzie. Jill will ask him to take a photo from a stake point.

- Carol noticed damage in the gully where we pulled bamboo. Maybe we could ask Drew as part of our storm water planning grant. Elaine and Carol did plant a few shrubs.
6. **Invasive Species Control**
--Carol started mapping different species on maps so we know what areas we need to hit at certain times of the year.
--We will soon be doing traps for Spotted Lantern Fly. We need to talk to Elaine Schmerling.
--Sub-committee of Invasive Control. Possibly Bev and Ruth Panella. Invasive patch of the week?
--Spotted Lantern Fly. Jen has an example of a good trap on Ardenistas. They are on herbaceous shrubs and plants now.
7. **Paths/Maintenance**
-On Hold: Bicycle path through Sherwood Forest from Hillside to Marsh road. We will investigate possible surfaces. Crusher run. Not paved. Double as a trail for older? less mobile path. Handicap access. Might possibly get grants for. Plus, we need to consider maintenance costs. We need to make a preliminary map. Eagle Path? Carol will check it out. Jen will look in her files for a map of the Eagle Trail.
--Need for a bridge to go across channel in Sherwood Forest. Carol will talk to Claney. Carol will call Jeff (who left the meeting). He might help.
8. **Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees**
--No removals at this time.
--Carol needs to photograph the Lubin Oak
--Leasehold on the corner of Miller and St. Martin had a tree down. Most likely not a forest tree, but the leaseholder is going to look at other trees that might need to come down. We need to look at the survey and check trees close to the property line.
9. **Community Involvement and Communications**
--Buzz Ware certified as a habitat. Dave will talk to Toby Ridings.
--Jill will look into certification for the Ardens.
--Jill will contact someone on the ACRA summer committee to talk to them about the patch program and will then put something in the page.
--Arden Page: Bev will write something for the page on the GPS/pull and send to the committee to review. Focus on area near Sunset Farms until Labor Day. Dave will put an email out for possible dates.
10. **New Business**

Meeting adjourned 8:47 PM. Next meeting is Wednesday, July 8, 7 PM.