

**Arden Forest Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, July 8, 2020, 7:00 PM**

**Via Zoom: In attendance : Jill Althouse-Wood, Carol Larson, Jen Borders, David Jones  
Absent: Jeff Martin Visitor: Bev Clendening Meeting called to order 7:06 PM**

1. **Administrative:** We approved June minutes.
  - Jen will compare Fire Permit Rules to what is on the website and send to Jill to get posted on town website. about some changes to the online fire permit.
  - We are going to continue with a general night policy that the woods are closed except with special permission. We will come up with a list of questions to ask if someone comes to us for permission for afterhours woods use to help us determine if permission will be granted
  - Jen put a google share doc for Volunteer hours. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MwKXYyulr2fxEVwli-Qj97sgXKGPPJ2a/view?usp=sharing>
2. **Finance:** One charge from Redtail. Carol has one receipt to submit.
3. **Current Grants/Projects**
  - Sherwood Restoration Project: Carol has one more set of data to take at end of July and then done with twice monthly readings.
  - Dave looked at vertebrate and invertebrate in Perkins Run. He is going to look into a fresh water invertebrate reporting form to post.
  - 2409 Woodland: Pinksters were okay, but needs rescued from weeds. Carol and David are planning a weeding day.
  - End of Hillside/Sherwood Forest planting circles: Jill took pictures of the circles last month. Will take again. We had some deer back there.
  - Surface Water Management: Foresite is still in information gathering phase.
- 4 **Boundaries/Encroachment**
  - Carol came with a plan for Sunset Farms. She has been reluctant to send the plan to the neighbors on the border. We are going to get Jeff Politis to sign the letter as well. We are in process of applying for Schroeder Funds. We discussed having an intern help us work on this project. We talked about partnering with University 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. Courts are slow due to COVID. Decision soon. Hajni Halasz, neighbor, is keeping an eye on the property.
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. Dave and Carol walked by to monitor. We might be able to apply methodology from our large restoration site and apply it to this gully.

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. In process. Dave had an idea of using Drone technology to video tape/ 360 photography all the ivy in the winter. Jill will talk to Larry Strange.

--Carol has been working with Elaine Schmerling on the Spotted Lantern Fly. We are trying to stop excess pesticide use with the traps. They are coming. They are going to start putting chemicals on trees that native insects don't feed on.

--Multiflora Rose: Bev has been cutting some down the path into the Arden Woods. She will continue to keep trimming. Carol and Bev will assess the area. Jen said the Burning Bush is out of control behind her house.

--We treated for Emerald Ash Borer along St. Martin's Lane and at the end of Hillside.

--Larger deer population than usual. Jen has volunteered to call Delaware Fish and Wildlife. She will also ask about foxes with mange. We have had some fox die and other reports of fox with mange. Jen will also call Susan Kaye because she has treated fox.

7. **Paths/Maintenance**

-On Hold: Bicycle path through Sherwood Forest from Hillside to Marsh road. We will investigate possible surfaces. Crusher run. Dave looked into prices and surfaces.

--Bridge, on hold. Talk to Jeff about possibly doing it. Dave will look at design of old bridge. We talked about possible materials. Jill and Dave will look into the spot.

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

--No removals at this time.

--Carol needs to photograph the Lubin Oak

9. **Community Involvement and Communications**

--Buzz Ware certified as a habitat. Dave talked to Toby Ridings. She said he needs to talk to Civic.

--Jill will look into certification for the Ardens.

--Jill will design and order patches for the 2020 patch program.

--Scavenger Hunt with ACRA has started and will end at the end of July.

--Arden Page (September)—Volunteer hours, Deer sightings/ damage, mangy fox sightings

--Ardenistas and Forests of the Arden post about Knotweed. Carol will post about it as a PSA.

10. **New Business**

**Meeting adjourned 8:43 PM. Next meeting is Wednesday, August 12, 7 PM.**