

## **Arden Forest Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, December 9, 2020, 7:00 PM**

**Via Zoom: In attendance: Carol Larson, Jen Borders, Jill Althouse-Wood, Bev Clendening, Dave Jones. Meeting called to order 7:07 PM**

**1. Administrative:** We approved November minutes.

-- We are still editing the Fire Permit to arden.delaware.gov. Jen is looking into it.

--Please update volunteer hours for the last month.

**2. Finance:** The report is still being updated with recent charges.

### **3. Current Grants/Projects**

—2409 Woodland: Some Mile-a-minute we have to watch. not a priority.

--End of Hillside/Sherwood Forest planting circles: Jill needs to take photos.

-- Surface Water Management: Nothing new

---Work Party December at Arden MillRace Preserve, November 17, 10 AM. Jen will put work party on Ardenistas. Wood pile has been removed (Ron's Tree Service) Inspection for the code violation is December 20.

### **4. Boundaries/Encroachment**

--Sunset Farms: We planted and mulched. We have to do some invasive removal so we can check out water damage. We also have more plants to put in. After Carol watched someone dragging branches toward the woods, we voted to put the fence in.

--We will check Sunset Farms for signs of erosion. Carol will talk to DNREC Debris Pit about the water direction.

-- Variance request by 10 Sunset Ct was approved in spite of objections by the committee and Arden. Jen, Carol, Bev, Jeff Politis, Elizabeth Varley represented our interests at the hearing. We learned a lot and will hopefully use the information for future appeals. We need to document the erosion. We are considering an appeal.

--Carol found another a pipe into woods from 4 Sunset Court which we need to report.

--Christine and Don Montgomery at 2033 Marsh Road. They have a pipe draining into woods. Carol needs to talk to them.

### **5. Drainage/Erosion**

--Jill will talk to Dave Nordheimer to continue to monitor erosion at Broadbent. Jill will ask him to take a photo from a stake point. Carol checked out the bamboo in the gully. We need to get rid of it next on our list.

### **6. Invasive Species Control**

--On hold: Jill talked to Larry Strange about drone video and 360 photography to map the ivy. He is talking about winter.

--Bev looked into iNaturalist to map our invasives. She is working on it

--SLF report: We need to take down traps. Bev will take down the ones on Miller/Marsh.

-- Discussed deer population control. We need to get buy-in from Hanby if we are going to hunt. The county is willing to help. Need to prepare Arden for possibility of population control by State Forester so we can preserve our understory.

### **7. Paths/Maintenance**

--Sherwood Bridge project on hold due to budget constraints.

--We need to retrieve a bridge from where it washed away downstream. We need 4-6 people. Checked weight when weeding at 2409 Woodland.

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

--Oak behind Dela Bryan that is uprooting. Carol went over with an arborist. It is not immanently risky. We will wait until the spring.

### **9. Community Involvement and Communications**

--Three December woods cleanups, one in each of the Ardens, on Thursdays.

--Great event for planting along Sunset Farms. 12 people. Good turnout.

--Buzz Ware will be certified as a habitat. Responsibility for exterior of Buzz is Civic responsibility. Carol will talk to Civic about certifying.

--We are well under way process of certification for the Ardens for Community Wildlife Habitat. The Gardeners Gild is going to be a part and possibly pay for the certification.

--New LEAF winter edition set for January 1. Jen is writing article on birds. Carol write about Arden Mill Race Preserve.

--Adding Deer articles on social media 1) Traffic accidents 2) hurt the environment 3) Deer Ticks 4) Deer suffering

--January page entry: LEAF; Change Meeting time

### **10. New Busines**

--Change meeting time to 5PM on Second Wednesdays

--Community Planning is working on a new guidance policy.

--Dave will be doing water testing tomorrow (December 10)

**Meeting adjourned 8:26 PM. Next meeting is Wednesday, January 12 at 5 PM.**

### **Actionable items**

**-Jen is working on changes to fire permit.**

**-Bev will check the Board of Adjustments in the Sunday Paper.**

**-Jill will talk to Dave Nordheimer about taking photos of erosion at Broadbent.**

**-Where does the mail go for the Forest Committee? Jill will ask Liz Resko.**

**-Carol will check out pipes going into woods, report**

**-Get forest committee email forwarded to Carol's email.**

**-Volunteer HOURS!!!!** <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MwKXYyulr2fxEVwli-Qj97sgXKGPPJ2a/view?usp=sharing>

**-Carol will send Jen her spending for Sunset Farms rehab.**

**--Carol follow up with debris pit.**

**--Dave Jones, do water testing/invertebrate count**

**--Bev will do readings on the water**

**--Jill—take pictures of the circles in Sherwood**

**--Jill working on LEAF**

**--Jill Arden Page**

**--Everyone, deer articles on Social media**

**--Jill—Working on Town certification**

- Jill Talk to Dave Nordheimer about erosion at Broadbent leasehold.**
- Carol will follow-up to DNREC Debris Pit about the erosion.**
- Bev to look into iNaturalist**
- Need to get bridge that was washed downstream—ORGANIZE**
- Jen will announce work party at Arden Mill Race Road**
- Carol post meeting minutes on town website**
- Carol change meeting times on town site and on bulletin board**