

Arden Forest Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 17, 2022, 5:06 PM:

In attendance: Carol Larson, Jill Althouse-Wood, Bev Clendening, Dave Jones, Keri del Tufo

- 1. Administrative:** --We approved December minutes with changes. Please update volunteer hours for the last month. Candidates for elections: Bev Clendening, Dave Jones, Eric Reed, Lisa Wolfe
- 2. Finance:** No new finance, Ash Borer treatment bill is coming when Carol sorts it out.
- 3. Current Grants/Projects** —Carol and Bev applied for a DISC (Delaware Invasive Species Council) grant in late December. 4 areas of plantings (with various fencing situations to compare and contrast) near the path from Cherry to Indian Circle.
- 4. Boundaries/Encroachment** --Sunset Farms: No fence yet. Waiting until spring. We are going to put it up on the line. Renting an auger would be about \$100 a day. Talked about getting a volunteer group to do this fence.
- 5. Drainage/Erosion** --Opportunity to do drainage and erosion control in Watershed A from the Stormwater Management Plan. We need to create a timeline for the work that needs to be done around the Fire lane area.—Steve Benigni (Civic) wrote proposals with Community Planning Committee for projects for watershed E and watershed J to spend ARPA (American Recovery Plan Act) money. Steve Benigni from Civic, Bev & Carol from Forest Committee had a call with Kevin Donnelly New Castle Conservation District because we would be coordinating any projects with the NCCD. Drew from Foresite called Carol and they talked about what stormwater management projects we could without a lot of planning and money.
- 6. Invasive Species Control** --Volunteers have been working on clearing the area at the Cherry Lane trail head ahead of work for our DISC grant. Also worked behind Ozers: ivy, burning bush, and multiflora rose. Bev will purchase fishing line to make a deer enclosure. We are going to have Red Tail work on patches of ivy behind Ozers and O'Regans.
- 7. Paths/Maintenance** --Dave will check out bridge in Sherwood Forest and replace boards. Dave also talked about building a new bridge in Sherwood if he gets the materials. Possible trails grant for soggy spots on our trails. We need a better map for our trails. (Long term planning)
- 8. Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees** --Keri has been checking out beech the Gordon/Stanko leasehold. We agreed to spend money on prune Lupin Oak.
- 9. Community Involvement/Communications** --Community Wildlife Certification—We were recertified, so our next certification is due next December. --LEAF is coming out February 1. Bev wants to do a weekend ivy pull on February 19 and put it in the page. Ivy Festival—April 2. Christina River Cleanup April 2-9.
- 10.** Next meeting is Monday, February 21, 5 PM at BWVC.

