

Arden Forest Committee Meeting Monday, February 20, 2022, 5:00 PM:

In attendance: Carol Larson, Keri del Tufo, Bev Clendenning, Dave Jones, visiting: Eric Reed

Called to order 5:05 PM

1. **Administrative:** --We approved January minutes with changes. Please update volunteer hours for the last month. Reserved room at Buzz for Ivy Fest

Candidates for Elections: Bev Clendenning, Dave Jones Eric Reed Lisa Wolfe

2. **Finance:** No new costs. Bill for Ash treatments pending. Red Tail bill pending,

Considerable amount remaining \$5000+ Must contact Red Tail to do more work, Buy plants for DISC grant, purchase chemicals for lesser celandine. Purchase lumber for bridges. Oak pruning at Lubins.

3. **Current/New Grants/Projects** —DISC Grant approved \$750. Ivy removal progress, Fence pending, signage needed to explain project to passers-by.

4. **Boundaries/Encroachment** . --Sunset Farms: Fence partially installed. We are going to put on the line. Jeff Politis offered to rent an auger to help dig holes. Volunteers proposed for March date: Skip, Politis, Mark Wood, Joey? Looking for specific able-bodied volunteers.

5. **Drainage/Erosion** – Volunteer work from Master stormwater plan Watershed A. Planting in Fire Lane/Stevenson area – part of the Storm water plan –

Try live stakes in eroded areas: red twig dogwood stakes, willow stakes.

Storm Water Management Plan: Final billing submitted and disbursed to the state. ARPA money can match state DNREC funds, but we're required to work with the New Castle Conservation District to implement projects. Eric Reed looking over grant application for SWMPG and CWQIG

Drew Hayes suggested a mass pervious paving fund for leaseholders might be funded by grant.

6. **Invasive Species Control** –Work continues at the Cherry Lane trailhead as written in DISC Grant on successive Tuesdays. 13 people participated 2/19/22

Deer population control: Bev to repair fishing line to protect areas with *Euonymus americana*.

More Red Tail: Ground ivy behind Ozer O'Regan. .

7. **Paths/Maintenance** --Soggy paths. Strategies: tree cookies, Aerate, Boardwalk. – Mapping with Eric Reed, Carol and Bev.

Broken bridge in Sherwood. 2 boards. Dave Jones has a carpenter friend to help – wants to build a bridge with Awakened Heart. Carol and Dave will go look at bridges. Eric suggested a bridge inventory

Idea: Try out monkey balls in the muddy areas- might firm up the mud. Bev and Lisa Wolfe have bags full.

Make cookies for muddy spots. Tree cookies available from cut Locust tree on Wind Lane.

Eroded spot behind Politis – reroute path with chips or cookies away from creek edge

8. **Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees** -. Trees to monitor: Dela Bryan's oak, Politis poplar, -Beech with crack behind Founder's Cottage

Lubin Oak: Contacted Certified arborist to prune tree. Must schedule before bud break.

9. **Community Involvement/Communications Arden Page:** Bev will thank volunteers from 2/19/22 Scout brochure to engage other troops. info to Jill.

Jill attended a lecture from NWF. -- Certified Wildlife Habitat.

Volunteer report: Bev has list from 2/19/22 event

ARDEN PAGE March. Thank you for 2/19, Ivy Festival, Woods Clean-up, fence sign-up

April page: Arbor Day and Earth Day. Future ongoing: Tree Champions, one per month?

10. **New Business** --

New Ivy Festival ideas –Spray bleach T-shirt designs, crayons to color leaf ID pictures, tug-of-war (ACRA rope)

Spring edition of LEAF: Jill asked for submissions.

Meeting adjourned 6:14 PM. Next meeting is Monday, March 21 at 5 PM.