

Arden Forest Committee Meeting

Monday, October 17, 2021, 5:00 PM:

In attendance: Carol Larson, Jill Althouse-Wood, Bev Clendening, Called to order 5:05 PM Absent Dave Jones, Keri del Tufo

1. Administrative: --We approved September minutes with changes. --Fire Permit is uploaded and interactive. --Please update volunteer hours for the last month.

--Denise Miles has done her 40 community hours in the woods. – We want her to file a W-2 so we can hire her. -New contract with Red Tail on a call-by-call basis for forest maintenance. For very specific areas. Carol will email contract for everyone to review and brought copies to the meeting

2. Finance: Red Tail came to work but didn't send bill. Carol needs to send the bill for the ash tree treatment.

3. Current Grants/Projects —2409 Woodland: Bev checked. Pulled Stiltgrass and Japanese Hop. All mile-a-minute was not removed in Spring. Carol ordered seeds for flood plain and some for dryer area. – Storm Water Management Plan reviewed 9/8, sent in edited version. We should look and read parts that pertain to wood. (Think about grant money.)

4. Boundaries/Encroachment --Sunset Farms: No fence yet. We are going to put it up on the line. Jill will ask Jeremy Sheiker since Dave Claney is no longer interested in putting up fences.

Board of Adjustment at 17 Durboraw. No respect for Forest border. More fence required Committee agreed to put in a fence.

Need to work on boundary at Laura Rowell, 2005 Millers, but she is amenable to helping with edge.

5. Drainage/Erosion –project proposal—map of minor erosion areas (see the Stormwater report)

6. Invasive Species Control –**Stilt grass** time is over. Worst areas: Mill Race and along some pathways. We (Bev, Carol & Denise) have done some work on it, last pulling date was 9/8. Carol treated Japanese Knotweed

--Hurlong's **Bamboo** along Woodland is still an issue but shouldn't be hard to take care of, still need to do this.

Bev has a whole program mapping invasives with volunteers. Bev put an article in the page. Got two people interested in helping – Discussed deer population control. –Bev and Carol put up fishing line technique to fence off an area around Euonymous Americanus to keep out deer. We will monitor. -Will ask Red Tail to work on burning bush in the fall.

--Red Tail came out and took out burning bush behind Millers, between St. Martins and Hillside.

7. Paths/Maintenance --Soggy paths. Discussed strategies: stepping-stone with tree slices, Aerate, Boardwalk. Bev has not heard from Drew. Talked about problem areas that are priority. Broken boards on Sherwood Bridges need replaced. Bev and Skip will cut cookies from their tree and put them on the path. Thoughts of experimenting with different types of wood for cookies.

8. Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees --Beech with crack behind Founder's Cottage. We are monitoring it. – Dela is not as concerned with her tree. Lubin Oak will be looked at on October 30. Talked about walking perimeter.

9. Community Involvement/Communications – Community Wildlife Certification—Jill has email in to find out if we need certification points for this year. –LEAF Jill is preparing articles for Winter. Send ideas to her. We are reserving a table for Arden Halloween. Arden Page for November?

Jill will make a brochure to send to scouting troops. Bev will connect Hunter Clarke Fields, again. --Social ideas Ivy Ball in February(?) Firefly festival in late June?

10. New Business – Red Twig dogwoods in the wet area near the Fire Road.

adjourned 6:07 PM. Next meeting is Monday, November 15 at 5 PM.