

Arden Forest Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 15, 2021, 5:00 PM:

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

- 1. Administrative:** --We approved October minutes with changes. --Please update volunteer hours for the last month.
- 2. Finance:** Red Tail presented a bill \$656.75. Tree consultant looked at Lubin Oak for \$150. Carol needs to send the bill for the ash tree treatment.
- 3. Current Grants/Projects** —2409 Woodland: Bev weeded first step. Nothing needs attention now, but we need to check it again in the spring and remove mile-a-minute. We discussed putting red twig dogwood in there.
- 4. Boundaries/Encroachment** --Sunset Farms: No fence yet. 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. We discussed putting a chain link fence on border with Sherwood Green development.
- 5. Drainage/Erosion** –Wednesday night is the community planning meeting for how to spend our ARPA (American Recovery Plan Act) money. And we can get matching funds from DNREC. We have a stormwater management plan that has possible projects we can present. We have some Stormwater BMP (best management practices) projects we want to present. And we also talked about putting bridges in the woods over swampy areas.
- 6. Invasive Species Control** –Bev and Carol have been working on the burning bush. Jill will work on signs to direct volunteers to invasive pulls. Bev has gotten a few more volunteers. Discussed more areas to fence to protect from deer, including areas of Euonymus Americus and oaks. Jill is going to create signs to put out to announce invasive pulls.
- 7. Paths/Maintenance** --Soggy paths need attention (aforementioned bridges?) Need to spread the wood chips at the end of Hillside.
- 8. Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees** –Jeff Politis has a poplar he wants us to look at. Lubin Oak was just assessed. The tree is healthy but it is leaning, so the arborist recommended very specific pruning. We got an estimate of \$1400 to prune and \$2000 to remove. We are going to wait to hear from Jeff Politis who will consult lawyer and insurance. We will get another quote on pruning.
- 9. Community Involvement/Communications** – Community Wildlife Certification—our certification is due next August. –LEAF Jill is preparing articles for Winter. Send ideas to her. Arden Page for December—fire permit. Jill will make a brochure to send to scouting troops. Bev will connect Hunter Clarke Fields, again. --Social ideas Ivy Ball? April 9 Gardening Guild Dinner.

Next meeting is Monday, December 20, 5 PM at BWVC.

