

Arden Forest Committee Meeting Monday, December 20, 2021, 5:00 PM:

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

Called to order 5:04 PM

1. **Administrative:** --We approved November minutes with changes. --Fire Permit is uploaded and is now interactive with the new webmaster. --Please update volunteer hours for the last month.
Candidates for Elections: Bev Clendening, Dave Jones?. Suggested Eric Reed Lisa Wolfe Pam Politis
2. **Finance:** No new costs. Bill for Ash treatments pending.
3. **Current Grants/Projects** —2409 Woodland: ordered seeds that are meant for floodplain from Ernst. Dave recommended Cardinal flower. One pound of Cardinal flower seeds is over \$1000.
4. **Boundaries/Encroachment** . --Sunset Farms: Fence partially installed We are going to put it up on the line. Jeff Politis offered to rent an auger to help dig holes. Volunteers proposed for March. See Lubin tree work in Removals
5. **Drainage/Erosion** —project proposal—map of minor erosion areas. Volunteer work for stormwater plan. Planting in Fire Lane/Stevenson area – part of the Storm water plan – red twig dogwood stakes?
6. **Storm Water Management Plan** Final Edit due early February. We should review sections on Forest renovation. To implement these projects we can use ARPA money to match state funds, but we'd have to work with the New Castle Conservation District to implement projects. January 12 we'll have to give our idea at CPC meeting
7. **Invasive Species Control** —Worked on the Green
Japanese knotweed: Treated missed a bunch moving toward the Ardencroft woods
Deer population control: put up more fishing line to protect areas with *Euonymus americana*.
-Red Tail worked on burning bush behind Millers Road.
8. **Paths/Maintenance** --Soggy paths. Discussed strategies: tree slices, Aerate, Boardwalk. –
“Bridge Brigade” for paths/bridges. Drew Jordan is not available at the present time. He suggested that we check back with him in 6 months.
Suggestion Map problem areas that are priority.
Broken bridge in Sherwood. 2 boards. Marianne Cinaglia requested path improvements
9. **Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees** --Beech with crack behind Founder's Cottage. We are monitoring it.
Carol looked at Dela Bryan's oak remains the same-Dela is not so concerned
Leaning poplar at Politis. Checked it with Jeff. Clear Oak on path near Hillside
Tree work at Lubins. \$1400 Checking with Insurance company and Jeff Politis
10. **Community Involvement/Communications Arden Page? Protect oak seedlings with Christmas trees?**
Scout brochure to engage other troops. Carol needs to send info to Jill.
Any work on Certified Wildlife Habitat? We have volunteer events doing invasive work.
 - **Volunteer base:** -Eric Reed, Lisa Wolfe, work on Sherwood side?Bev: Volunteer report: Any more responses to Article in page with QR code?
11. **New Business** --
April 2 is the Christina Rive Arden Clean-up. Arden Dinner is scheduled.
Ivy Ball events/contests: Fattest Vine, Biggest Ball/Longest length/most creative
Make and post videos of Ivy removal techniques.
Firefly Festival, Blackberry bake off, Compost contest, Rain barrel initiatives.

Meeting adjourned 6:15 PM. Next meeting is Monday, January 17 at 5 PM.