

Arden Forest Committee Meeting MINUTES Monday September 19, 2022, 6:00 PM

In attendance Carol Larson, Bev Clendening, Eric Reed, Lisa Wolfe, Keri Del Tufo. Call to order 6:07

1. **Admin:** --Approve August minutes. With corrections regarding herbicide Update volunteer hours for the last month or tell Bev. New Google Sheet Additions/Corrections to Forest Stewardship Policy. Google Doc online Discussed some changes to meeting time. 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday.
2. **Finance:** Keri sent financial report. No new additions. We received funds from DISC grant \$750
3. **Current/New Grants/Projects —**  
DISC Grant ongoing. Funds dispersed fences in good repair. Bev did interim report, final due Winter

ARPA: SWMPG grant proposal sent . Waiting on response in September ARPA funds reporting guidelines from Community Planning Report for Town meeting.

Arden Species inventory. Will Ryan / Janet Ebert. Spoke to Will; cost \$10,000. He will send details of digital product we would get – GIS mapping etc.

4. **Boundaries/Encroachment .** --Sunset Farms: check growth in border area
5. **Drainage/Erosion .** Trail heads : Level lip spreaders for water rushing down paths.  
Try live stakes in eroded areas: red twig dogwood stakes, willow stakes. Planting time in fall.
6. **Invasive Species Control** –Deer population control: fishing line to protect areas with *Euonymus americana*. Discussed areas for Red Tail contract --stilt grass and honeysuckle. North end of Hillside: privet, burning bush Stilt grass Bev and Carol did Sherwood trail. Continuing group work days concentrating on Stilt grass Mile-a-minute, Stilt Grass at Mill Race. Bamboo: finished Tocco, **need to pick up brush** Stanko/Gordon invasive removal - Chameleon plant to treat in July. Bev will research best practice for Tx.
7. **Paths/Maintenance**  
Bridges have become slippery: Actions: Adhere traction strips Bleach suggested, or non-toxic moss and algae cleaner.  
Grants available ORPT and DNREC? Should develop grants to be ready for cycle next round due  
Eroded spot behind Politis – success in reroute path  
Research cost for accessible area walkway– Woodland to Indian Circle?  
Considering areas that are feasible. Research design and cost.  
Discussed access to creek at 2409 Woodland (Wynn) work session 8/16 Discussed wall repair with Wayne Knotts.
8. **Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees -.** Be on the lookout for hazard trees along woods edge.  
Ridings dead oak – Theis hangers. Bev’s ash branches. Politis trees behind patio  
Politis poplar, 2000 top out 2500 with brush removal, red maple  
One beech along Fire Lane fell and was cleaned up by utility
9. **Community Involvement/Communications/Arden Page**  
Lisa contact Jill Althouse wood about community programs: LEAF, PATCH after mid-September  
December 9, Moonlight campfire sing- Refreshments: Hot cider. Oct. 9 test run with solar lights for pathway  
FOREST ESCORT SERVICE: hikes in woods for new residents. Ivy Gables tour?  
More presence on Bulletin Boards: Community Wildlife Habitat-QR code? Service day for Ivy with kids in November Ivy pull for 8-12 year olds. Discussed developing outreach to kids. Pizza party?
10. **other Business** -- Water company issues at Mill Race. Letter finalized. Waiting to hear when they come.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM. Next meeting is Monday, October 17 at 6 PM