

Arden Forest Committee Meeting Minutes October 17, 2022, 6:00 PM

In attendance Carol Larson, Bev Clendening, Eric Reed, Lisa Wolfe, Keri Del Tufo. Call to order: 6:10.

Admin: --Approved September minutes with corrections.

Update volunteer hours for the last month or tell Bev. Google sheets document has multiple year tabs

Corrections to **Forest Stewardship Policy**. Google Doc online.

Changed meeting time. 2nd Monday is better – no conflict with GG or Quizzo. Changes to website, Page, Buzz calendar and bulletin board

2. Finance: Keri sent financial report. No new additions. We received \$750 from DISC – Bev will check with Skip (treasurer) about the amount being registered in the Forest account

3. Current/New Grants/Projects — DISC Grant ongoing. fences in good repair. Final report due Winter

ARPA: SWMPG grant proposal accepted – waiting on purchase order. ARPA funds reporting guidelines from Community Planning Report for Town meeting. Bev noted status at Oct. 3 Town Assembly.

Arden Species inventory. Will Ryan / Janet Ebert. Cost \$10,000. Waiting for details of digital product we would get – GIS mapping etc. Jim White (author of 2002 Inventory) does not know of any DNREC funding sources for an inventory. Carol reaching out to Bill McAvoy – another author on the 2002 Inventory

4. Boundaries/Encroachment . --Sunset Farms: We pulled invasives, Mugwort and Japanese Hops infestation. Planted more spicebush and elderberry stakes. Planting or seeding important to check growth of invasives

5. Drainage/Erosion . Planting –needed in Fire Lane adjacent area

Try live stakes in eroded areas: red twig dogwood stakes, willow stakes. Schedule in February at bud break.

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. Poison ivy Carol sent a note to Red Tail regarding Poison Ivy work. North end of Hillside: privet, burning bush. Stilt grass Bev and Carol did Sherwood trail. Continued group work days concentrating on Stilt grass Mile-a-minute,

Bamboo: finished Tocco, need to pick up brush //Stanko/Gordon chameleon plant Bev talked to them

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 – action needed.

Discussed accessible area walkway– Woodland to Indian Circle. “Circle wall to Indian Circle path” accessible.

Action: Research design and cost.

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. Removal of ash is \$2000. Politis poplar, 2000 top out 2500 with brush removal, red maple by patio.

9. Community Involvement/Communications/Arden Page

Lisa contacted Jill Althouse wood about community programs: LEAF, PATCHes – new articles

LEAF: Lisa: discussed format (4 page newsletter, calendar, 4x per year) Actions: generate list of potential stories, standard events, books to read. Message/promo: “LEAF Coming to Life” Grants: DISC Cherry Lane site, Meet with Elaine -invasive report, new invasives. Carol has a calendar of events, invasive plant emerging, etc.

December 9: Moonlight campfire sing- Refreshments: Hot cider. Test run with solar lights for pathway not scheduled

FOREST ESCORT SERVICE: hikes in woods for new residents. Ivy Gables tour? No takers after Page article. Talked to Marianne about walkers being independent

More presence on Bulletin Boards: Community Wildlife Habitat- Discussed QR code: Need an Arden subscription for this.

Service day for Ivy with kids in Winter nixed. Talk to ACRA regarding Ivy Pull and other events.

PAGE ideas. December 9th time change, Lisa - composting leaves – leaving stems important. Leaving ground debris.

10. Other Business -- Water company issues at Mill Race. They cut through parcel -no excavation as yet

Meeting adjourned at --- 7:35 PM. Next meeting is Monday, November 14 at 6 PM