

## **Arden Forest Committee Meeting minutes January 9, 2023, 6:00 PM**

In attendance Carol Larson, Bev Clendening, Eric Reed, Lisa Wolfe, Keri Del Tufo. Visitors: Stevie and Paul Nolan

Call to order 6:05 pm

**Admin:** December minutes approved

Election slate for January Town meeting. Carol and Lisa running; Stevie and Paul Nolan, to invite: Jessica Colgan Snyder and Dave Jones

Discussion of **Forest Stewardship Policy**. Google Doc online. tabled

**2. Finance:** no new entries

**3. Current/New Grants/Projects** — DISC Grant: Final Report underway

ARPA Watershed E – Drew Hayes of Foresite to send info about surveying progress for the Town Assembly report

U&CF Tree Grant: Due 3/3/23 must have site visit. Up to \$5000, need to match it. Will apply if Civic submits a grant

Arden Species inventory. Will Ryan / Janet Ebert. Cost \$10,000. **Possibility of just a mapping app?** Put need for inventory in LEAF or Page to build support for \$\$

**4. Boundaries/Encroachment** . – Sunset Farms – fence repair, black plastic, fence parts to remove.

Action: check area in March, schedule removals of aggressive plants.

**5. Drainage/Erosion** . Planting –needed in Fire Lane adjacent area: planting advised in Master Water Plan. Live stakes in eroded areas and bank stabilization: red twig dogwood stakes, willow stakes. Timing: February at bud break.

**6. Invasive Species Control** –Deer population control: areas with *Euonymus americana*. Supports and more fishing line – Lisa monitoring area near her house. Areas in Sherwood could use protection

Redo deer enclosure areas on Upper Hillside pathway and Politis – T-posts with lots of fish line wrapping

Report from Will Ryan: Certainty about *Euonymus alatus*. Found more areas along Naamans Creek

Group work ongoing: Steve Nolan's *pachysandra* and ivy behind Theis

Group work areas: Behind O'Neill/Evans Ivy trees near Highway Trail Head Jan 10

Red Tail areas.

We need to identify plants for residents so they can be confident doing work on their own – Red paint on twigs or tape with plant labels color coded marking tape.

**7. Paths and Bridges/Maintenance**

Lisa walked the path in Ardencroft and the boardwalk over their boggy areas. She suggested wood chips (delivery from Ron) might improve some areas.

Grants available ORPT for paths. Should develop grants to be ready for next round due June 2023.

Discussed replacing Hillside Pool path and removing Macadam patches.

Path improvements and maintenance: Lisa's inquiries Mt. Cuba staff instructor with Forest Service experience

Steps down to Indian Circle need infill – too compacted. No consensus about how to manage this. Research needed. Also, tree cookies have aged and broken down.

**8. Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees** -. No new action.

Ridings dead oak – Theis hangers to be done winter – Call Ron this Jan-Feb

## 9. Community Involvement/Communications/Arden Page

**LEAF:** Lisa needs input for LEAF. Books, recipes, help for border properties.

Edge habitat description for leaseholds on Forest Border. Deer will be hungry this year – no acorns.

Tree City Application submitted

Events: **EARTH DAY** is a Saturday! April 22. Same day as the Christina/Naamans Watershed Clean up.

Discussed in person clean-up with coffee and donuts meeting prior to going out to woods assignments.

Need to start communications for Earth Day/Clean up

**PAGE** in February. Watch for celandine? Mulch Barrier to bulbets s running into the woods

Discussed Including an article in the Land Rent mailing. Best practices for woods edge maintenance from Carol. Forest committee needs support even if it's simply to report activity in the woods – eyes and ears for the committee.

10. **Old Business** – Veolia at Mill Race. Jeff sent request for plants. Restoration list of trees, shrubs and seeds.

11. Old Business: Glyphosate defense Power Point for January Town meeting. Discussion our use as contrasted with industrial spraying, minimize use

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. Next meeting is Monday, February 13 at 6