

Arden Forest Committee Meeting minutes March 13, 2023, 6:00 PM

In attendance Carol Larson, Bev Clendening, Eric Reed, Lisa Wolfe absent: Keri del Tufo. Call to order 6:15 pm

Admin: February minutes approved

Election slate: Carol and Lisa; Stevie and Paul Nolan, Jessica Colgan-Snyder and Dave Jones

Discussion of **Forest Stewardship Policy**. Google Doc online. Add pesticide policy – Bev will look at new draft that includes pesticide and Tree Policy for GTF (Governance Task Force)

2. Finance: Red Tail entry \$296.00. Tree removals \$3000 RedTail \$740 and work spraying celandine.

3. Current/New Grants/Projects — DISC Grant: Continuing reporting – monthly plant check 3/2, 4/3, 5/4, 6/5, – fence repairs – stronger 40 lb line

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 \$\$ Waiting on Will Ryan for more information

New DISC Grant: Ivy plots to set up, have not heard about grant, Bev will do celandine experiment next year.

4. Boundaries/Encroachment . – Sunset Farms – aggressive invasives to be monitored, need to check garlic mustard, police area. Plantings to be improved, discussed seeding and stakes

5. Drainage/Erosion . Planting in Fire Lane adjacent area: Red maple planted and stakes put in. Naamans banks: Live stakes placed on red twig dogwood stakes, willow stakes.

6. Invasive Species Control –Deer population control: areas with *Euonymus americana*. Supports and more fishing line Areas in Sherwood could use protection. Report on barriers along upper path near Hillside- Bev to reroute path to save *E. americana* patch.

Ongoing Group work: Burning bush behind Politis, Orchard Lane (Nolan) Burning bush and pachysandra, pachysandra/ivy at Highway trail head- Garlic Mustard behind O'Neill/Evans/Munroe

Discussed spraying pre-emergent for stilt grass at Mill Race – Elaine is using a contractor for areas that we can use.

Carol to go with Elaine when there is a basal bark spray of burning bush shrub - to assess efficiency

Celandine spraying: Red Tail: Marsh and Millers, Hillside, Carol Highway Trail head

Coding/ labeling invasives for residents who want to work on their land. Just Ridings, No new requests.

7. Paths and Bridges/Maintenance

Path improvements: Waiting to get non-oak species chips from Ron so we don't spread disease

Lisa and Bev placed monkeyballs, Ruth Panella in places (1 hour) and Neal Ann Stevens

Grants available ORPT for paths. Consider grant ideas to be ready for preliminary proposal due June 2023.

Hillside Pool path: Keep brick, remove Macadam patches:Bev will test rocks fill in on Hillside path

Steps down to Indian Circle need infill – too compacted. Researched need to fill in behind logs or slope will erode.

Path near Maureen Gordon could use more monkeyballs.

Seating opportunities : reminder to look for appropriate logs to cut and place.

Bridge put in at the Eagle path: Tom Van Duyne from Buckingham Greene

8. Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees

Ridings and Theis dead oaks – Ron scheduled

9. Community Involvement/Communications/Arden Page

LEAF: Lisa More input for new issue. See accompanying list.

EARTH DAY/ WOODS CLEAN UP is Saturday April 22. At the same time as Christina River Watershed Clean up.

FOREST Minutes March 13, 2023 continued

Discussed in-person clean-up with coffee and donuts meeting prior to going out to woods assignments. Have folks return after clean-up to bring bags of trash so we can weigh it and send total to Christina River Watershed organization.

Talk to Marianne about NCWA coordination. We could have cuttings or plants to give away. Raffle of Forest Committee time – recognition for strangest trash treasure found! Gift Certificate for tools suggested

Forest Policy states that Community Planning is supposed to help plan clean-up (has not happened in the past 15 years) Lisa will check with CP chair.

PAGE in April: EARTH DAY and CLEAN UP and Arbor Day planting on April 29 – Dogwoods going to the dogs. Page Deadline is March 25

Gardeners Gild May discussion: Tour of the DISC site – Invasive removal techniques. Park at Gild/Walk to DISC

Items for Town Assembly Report:

- Spraying areas marked,
- Dead trees coming down at Hillside Trail head, Group invasive species removal team
- April 22 Spring clean-up/ Arbor Day/Gardeners Gild dinner/ MOVIE?
- 20 year anniversary of Natural Resource inventory

10. **Old Business** – Veolia at Mill Race. Jeff Politis sent request for plants. No response, forest to contact them directly?

Adjourn 7:30 (?)

Next meeting Monday, April 10, 2023. 6:00 pm