

Arden Forest Committee Meeting minutes Friday, April 14, 2023, 6:00 PM Call to order 6:01 pm

In attendance Carol Larson, Bev Clendening, Eric Reed, Lisa Wolfe Jess Colgan Snyder. Visitor: Tom Van Duyne

Admin: March minutes

Jess Colgan Snyder convenes: FOIA and Conflict of Interest read

Carlo and Bev voted to remain co-chairs of forest committee

Discussion of **Forest Stewardship Policy**. Google Doc online. Add pesticide policy – Bev will look at new draft that includes pesticide GTF (Governance Task Force) – link added to website so people can review ahead of June meeting

Possible postcard to go out to Arden residents- “check out our updates”

2. Finance: Eric Reed agreed to continue budget spreadsheet

3. Current/New Grants/Projects — DISC Grant: Continuing reporting – monthly plant check 5/4, 6/5, – fence repairs – stronger 40 lb line Run a line to support the top of the netting suggested. Bev and Carol need to inspect prior to Gardener’s Guild event on Monday May 15

DISC Grant: Ivy Study- We declined the grant because they only offered to pay for supplies not labor.

4. Boundaries/Encroachment . – Sunset Farms – aggressive mugwort, garlic mustard. . Plantings to be improved, discussed seeding and seedlings.

5. Drainage/Erosion . Planting in Fire Lane adjacent area: Red maple planted and stakes put in. Naamans banks: Eric Reed reported that stakes have leaves!

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 working to reroute path to save *E. americana* patch. 8 foot fence suggested

Ongoing Group work: GARLIC MUSTARD Areas behind Munroe and O’Neill and Sunset Farms

Sprayed pre-emergent for stilt grass at Mill Race – Used Elaine’s contractor Weeds, Inc.

Carol went 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, Mill Race, Marsh and Millers

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

Stilt grass- summer invasive to keep an eye out for

“Weeds gone Wild” Jess ask for pamphlet to be included in New Registration packet

7. Paths and Bridges/Maintenance

Path improvements: chips from Ron at north Hillside trailhead

Skip and Bex cut large log for upper path

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

Jess had mud/clay at house for the grabbing for areas needed

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

Steps down to Indian Circle need infill – too compacted and not level – on hold – winter work November.

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

Bridge put in at the Eagle path: Tom Van Duyne, neighbor, Bridge by Heidi on Meadow Lane. Bev to meet with Tom and look at new bridge locale

Obtain a copy of a path map- share with the Ardens the updates and renovations

8. Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees Poplar behind Politis – lean Tree off Sherwood Green to check - Hutt

9. Community Involvement/Communications/Arden Page

LEAF: Lisa-- New issue posted online, 25 copies to distribute LOOKS GREAT!

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

Plants give-away, Bev potted tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers., Carol has golden ragwort.

Refreshments: Elaine brings caffeinated, Carol brings decaf. Raffle of Forest Committee time – recognition for strangest trash treasure found! Gift Certificate for tools suggested

NCWA coordination. Carol to meet with Tom Wheeler and Marianne Cinaglia.

Arbor Day celebration: Plant a dogwood for Arbor Day at the Buzz. Emphasis on native plants.

PAGE in May: Page Deadline is April 21?

Gardeners Guild, May 15 discussion: Tour of the DISC site – Invasive removal techniques. Park at Gild/Walk to DISC or meet at Candlelight 6:00 pm. (Check)

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

Adjourn: 7:29 pm

Next meeting Monday, May 8, 2023. 6:00 pm