

**Arden Forest Committee Meeting minutes Monday, July 10, 2023, 6:00 PM** Call to order: 6:05 pm

In attendance Carol Larson, Eric Reed, Lisa Wolfe. Bev Clendening. Absent: Jess Colgan-Snyder.

**Admin:** May minutes pending approval. Sent on Friday 7/7

Approve June minutes.

OK to RedTail Contract, work as needed up to \$2000.

**Forest Stewardship Policy.** Bev has modified the policy slightly based on Jeff Steen edits

Discussed regarding education for revised policy. Motion to accept revised policy will be in January so we should be prepared with a presentation. – GTF will have education sessions we should pay attention.

**2. Finance:** New expenses to Eric send to [forest@arden.delaware.gov](mailto:forest@arden.delaware.gov) Lisa had receipts for supplies: Earth Day event and printing LEAF

**3. Current/New Grants/Projects** — DISC Grant: report. Fence repairs, plants to monitor. Frequency discussed.

Watershed E: Permeable driveways, rain garden at Shapira. Steve, Bev, Carol to meet with Drew.

**4. Boundaries/Encroachment** . – Sunset Farms: checked invasive growth. Mugwort, 1st year Garlic mustard, Japanese hops. Plantings to be improved, seed bank and seedlings in fall.

**5. Drainage/Erosion** . Planting in Fire Lane adjacent area: Red maples and shrubs to plant. Fall.

**6. Invasive Species Control** –

- Upper path near Hillside- plan needed for wash-out. Deer control for E. americana patch. Multiflora Rose regrowth to treat.
- Ongoing Group work: Bamboo, 1<sup>st</sup> year garlic mustard, Akebia, stilt grass control.
- Areas behind Munroe and O’Neill and Sunset Farms. Sprouting privet and BB needs to be trimmed and treated
- Arden Woods behind Politis 5 leaf akebia
- Bamboo taken out at Tocco. Going forward she will weed whack to maintain.

**7. Paths and Bridges/Maintenance**

Path improvements:

Bridge locations, Rods for bridge that washes out.

Check for poison ivy along paths to pull – review interior growth

**8. Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees** Poplar behind Politis – lean. \$3000 removal from Ron. \$1000 for oak – may be Politis leasehold responsibility, checking boundary. Ok to take out these trees – must get ok from officers

Ash trees declining behind Clendening. Leaf out- one is in better shape. Carol charge for ash chemical

Millers Road at Marsh project – remove/reduce poison ivy and transplant rudbeckia – dig up at Carol’s

More chips from Ron.

**9. Community Involvement/Communications/Arden Page**

- **LEAF:** 2 page “leaflet” whet the appetite discussion of QR code use
- **COMMUNITY CAMPFIRE** October 27<sup>th</sup> Friday night. Full Moon, Coordinate with ACRA
- **PAGE:** September: Booth, raffle, October bonfire
- **GARDENERS GILD** coordination.
- **Water Quality Master Plan** – Response to Steen from Civic, Forest, Community Planning
- **Certified Wildlife Habitat** – Jill managing through 2023. Lisa talked to DNS they suggested a map of leaseholds. – Lisa will make one
- Firefly Festival 2024: Sleep out on the Green; Music, Sing along. Food trucks in the morning and evening
- Community Informational meeting for herbicide use. Hold off for policy discussion be prepared for another defense.

LEAF content from Lisa: Editions planned

Fair LEAF edition: Jill A-W interviewed for Habitat, Old Growth Network, Tree City Cert. Wildlife Habitat invasive species and DISC

FAIR BOOTH: Raffle of weeding, costumes, brochures, LEAF, literature. Invite partners DISC?

**10. Old Business** – Veolia at Mill Race. Carol spoke to Emily Guillen and told her we'd wait for next season to make order. Forest will work with Veolia directly.

Next meeting Monday, August 14, 2023. 6:00 pm Adjourn: 7:30 ?