

Arden Forest Committee Meeting minutes August 14, 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: Approved July minutes.

Forest Stewardship Policy.

Discussed GTF Sessions – motion to accept revised policy will be in January.

2. Finance: New expenses to Eric. Also send to forest@arden.delaware.gov. LEAF expenses-Bev to do voucher

3. Current/New Grants/Projects — DISC Grant

Watershed E: Permeable driveways, rain garden at Shapira. Carol has calls into Foresite for Progress report

4. Boundaries/Encroachment . – Sunset Farms: They sent a letter to regarding large trees leaning out from the edge Carol can go check the lean of trees and determine if they are a hazard and need removal.

5. Drainage/Erosion . Planting in Fire Lane adjacent area: Red maples, sweet gums and shrubs to plant. Fall. schedule

6. Invasive Species Control –

- Upper path near Hillside- plan needed for wash-out. Deer control for E. americana patch. Multiflora Rose in area to work on.
- Ongoing Group work: Bamboo, 1st year garlic mustard, Akebia, stilt grass control. Plan for pre-emergent planning spring: akebia, Mile-a-minute, stilt grass
- Areas behind Munroe and O’Neill and Sunset Farms. Burning bush and multiflora need tx
- Arden Woods behind Politis 5 leaf akebia
- Area from Mullinax to old pool. Privet and multiflora.

7. Paths and Bridges/Maintenance

Wet area at old pool. Path is being re-routed we want to avoid this. Boardwalk discussed. Bev and Lisa have been packing it with clay and stone as it is available.

Bridge locations, Bev discussed payment with Tom Van Duyne but it didn’t work for him. Rods drilled in for bridge that washes out.

Check for poison ivy along paths to pull – review interior growth- let Carol know about areas of concern

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 Checked Paul and Steve’s dead tree. Small. Will add to Ron’s list.

Ash trees declining behind Clendening. Leaf out- one is in better shape. Carol charges pending for ash chemical Tx 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 for Town Assembly
- **FAIR LEAF:** decided to update the Summer version. DISC Tour, Nolans, activity update
- **COMMUNITY CAMPFIRE** October 27th Friday night. Full Moon, Coordinate with ACRA. Cecilia as a storyteller, Musicians: Nolans, Pete, Sharon Bousquet, Leslie Carey.
- **PAGE:** September: Booth Raffle October bonfire
- **GARDENERS GILD** coordination. Wouldn’t send LEAF. Develop email list.
- **Plant list** – Lisa developing a list: Invasive-Native at Fair and on website
- **Water Quality Master Plan** – Response to Steen from Civic, Forest, Community Planning in case we have a conflict
- **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. Prepare for push back.

FAIR BOOTH: Raffle of weeding, brochures, LEAF, WEEDS GONE WILD brochure. Invited 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, September 11, 2023. 6:00 pm Adjourn: ? 7:30