

Woodlands Committee Minutes
August 21, 2019
7:00-8:30 PM

In attendance: Ed James, Greg Eck, Ben Fischler, Lynne Slater, Bryan Bruns, Ethel Dutkey, Lori Dominick

Administrative

- **Announcements**
- **Next meeting –September 18**
- **Minutes of the June and July meetings were accepted with minor edits.**
- **Accepted agenda**

Report from Staff Liaison –

Greg Eck had nothing to report for this month.

Report from Board of Directors –

Ed James reported that the GHI Board adopted the tree removal proposal and forwarded it to the City and PEPCO. It's budget season and we should work on any funding requests if needed. The Committee currently has \$900 in its budget.

Un-permitted/Informal Pocket Garden: Approve Draft Letter

Lynne drafted a letter to be used to notify members about unapproved and/or informal pocket gardens or other common space issues. This was in response to comments about an informal pocket garden that has since been spruced up and received positive comments. We will try to coax the mystery gardener to fill out a caretaker proposal form.

The draft letter was approved, Lynne will forward the letter to Greg for use in other situations.

Review of July 28th Work Day

Bryan and Lori surveyed the trails on both sides of Canyon Creek.

Work Days for Remainder of 2019

- **Bryan's Proposal for a September 7th "Introduction to GHI Trails" walk**
- **Plant Swap on October 20th**
- **Woodchip Project in Parcel S –** the date for this is September 14th. Lori will send a request to Greg about having the woodchips delivered. We want to put down 4-6" of woodchips, and we will not create any "volcanoes" around the base of trees. Lori will also buy flags to mark the area. Greg did not receive any comments from members about the project.
- **Any other Caretaker plans?** Nothing is planned at this time.

Discuss placing directional signs on trails

There are some places on the trails where directional signage would be helpful. It is also a good idea to have GPS coordinates in the event of an emergency on the trail. Bryan will bring a proposal to a future meeting.

Parcel X Trail Plans

Lori and Bryan will stake out a potential trail by September 7th.

We will work on text for door hangers to place on nearby homes. Greg will find out how we can get doorhangers printed and who will hang them.

Recruiting New Committee Members and Caretakers

Ideas were discussed including:

- Invite new GHI members to the trail walk and meetings by sending a postcard
- Introduce people to the trail system with escorted trail walks
- Add the Open Street Maps trail map to the New Member Packets
- Attend the New Member meeting
- Attend Membership meeting in May
- Reach out the Outreach Committee
- Have a meetup after Workday Projects
- Inform people about the Woodlands Committee at the Plant Swaps

Discuss Forest Preserve Advisory Board's draft Stewardship Guidelines

The Forest Preserve Advisory Board has officially submitted the draft Stewardship Guidelines to the City Council and a work session is scheduled for Wednesday September 09/25/2019 8:00 PM. Bryan and Ben have emailed the Forest Preserve Advisory Board's draft Stewardship Guidelines. Please carefully review this before the next Woodlands Committee meeting on September 18th to see if there are any GHI concerns to address.

Check-out/future agenda items/evaluation/closing round

Future Agenda Item: Woodlands Committee Budget

List action items from the August meeting:

Everyone – review the Stewardship Guidelines. Ben will email links tomorrow.

Bryan – Trail Map, proposal for locations for trail signs

Lynne – Greenbelt News Review Article – Parcel X trail reroute, forward letter to Greg about informal pocket gardens

Lori- Communicate about Parcel X trail reroute, Caretakers program, send email to Greg about woodchips, invite Friends to the next meeting

Lori and Bryan – start out Parcel X trail reroute on 8/30

Greg – look into taxes