

Woodlands Committee Minutes

July 17, 2019

7:00-8:30 PM

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

Administrative: – Our next meeting is August 17th.

Accept Minutes from June 2019 meeting – Please send comments to Lynne

Accept Agenda –

Reviewed Action plans and new actions.

Staff Liaison, Greg Eck – Our Workday sign is where it needs to be. George wants to know if we are participating in the Tremendous Tree Purchasing Program. We have no plans to plant trees in any common areas; individuals can purchase trees and put them on their property.

Board Liaison, Ed James – The Board is looking into whether existing Rain Barrel rules/regulations need to be modified - currently they are strictly in yards. PEPCO canceled a meeting about trees.

Progress on PEPCO tree plan – Ethel, Ben, Ed James and Bill Phelan checked on the trees in question. Not all trees were marked properly, and the team is working on a report. In most cases, it is obvious that the trees should be removed; pruning won't help.

Review of Un-permitted/Informal Pocket Garden letter – decided to deal with each issue separately, we will send to the board for action.

Parcel X Trail – review draft article – minor edits

Workdays for 2019

July 28th – Bryan

August – Lori will talk to Ken about Woodchip Project

September – Ben will see if any Caretakers want to tackle a project

October – Plant Swap – 20th and fall trail walk

Woodchips from Pepco. The committee is undecided about taking on woodchips from Pepco.

Poison Ivy – Greenbelt City council members have brought up an issue about poison ivy on trails and near sidewalks, and the council is working on a policy about poison ivy. GHI has a policy about poison ivy in yards.

Discuss Maintenance of Canyon Creek Trail – removing English ivy at the beginning of the trail. Concerns about pulling English ivy and having invasives (including poison ivy) take over. Keeping it off the trees might be something to focus on. We need to research if we should replace ivy with something else.

Publicize the Caretaker Programs – everything is ready to go – Lori will start sending out emails.

Action items – refer to June minutes

Woodlands Website:

At the Annual Membership meeting on May 10, 2018, the membership voted on a policy to prevent the construction of permanent buildings or roads in the GHI Woodlands. This policy needs to be included on the Woodlands portion of the GHI website. (<https://www.ghi.coop/node/211>). This could go under the “Related Content” section on the left side of the page. (I am not sure if we agreed on this).

The policy:

No buildings or permanent roads shall be constructed in the GHI Woodlands. For purposes of this motion, “GHI Woodlands” shall be defined as the 87.65 acres of woodlands identified in the Forest Stewardship Plan dated May 31, 2013 prepared by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. “Building” shall be defined as a structure having a roof and used for the shelter, support, or enclosure of persons, animals, or property. “Road” shall be defined as any travel way or right-of-way for the purpose of, or used for, passage of motor vehicular traffic.