

**Woodlands Committee Minutes**  
**September 16, 2020**  
**7:00-8:30 PM**

In attendance: Bryan Bruns, Zach Conron, Lori Dominick, Gregory Eck, Ben Fischler, Pat Holobaugh, Ed James

**1) Opening Round: welcome visitors with introductions**

**2) Administrative**

- Announcements
- Next meeting – October 21
- Accepted minutes of August meeting
- Accept agenda

**3) Review Action Items from August Meeting**

- Pat will look at signs on Amazon to recognize current spaces and to recruit people to sign up for other spaces.  
Pat found signs for \$27 each. We would need 15-20 signs. In addition, we could put up signs for spaces that could use a caretaker. This was approved.
- Pat will also check her scavenger hunt list to see if she can create a scavenger hunt for families.  
Pat sent the scavenger hunt list out.
- Run announcement about caretakers again in GHI E-news. Lori will send out an email this week.
- Lori will find out how to get something about the Caretaker program in the New Member packet. This is in progress. We should include a map of the trails also.
- Revisit Wood Chip area and re-distribute the wood chips. Make this a workday after the stay at home order is lifted. [Lori]
- Greg will check on the price of the sign outside the GHI office building. We would like to put something similar at the entrance to the Canyon Creek Trailhead. The sign will cost approximately \$600. We agreed to purchase the sign.

**4) Report from Staff Liaison** Greg moved the sign to the workday project, found the price of the sign for us, and has been investigating the locations of more redwood trees.

**5) Report from Board of Directors Liaison** Ed reports that the redwood tree will be cut down and comments on social media indicate that most members understand why the tree needs to come down.

**6) Report from Chair** Ben reported that the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay is in a hurry to get a ballpark estimate of the numbers of what trees we might want to plant. Ben has been in

discussions with Greg and GHI to identify locations. There might be a few locations, Ben is also working with Bill Phalen.

- 7) Caretaker Application** Zach Conron lives next to a bamboo grove behind 65 Ridge Road and 5 Laurel Hill Road. Bamboo has invaded Zach's yard; it is in the common area and is entering more yards. Zach would like to eradicate this bamboo grove and has drafted a caretaker application for this. We discussed methods that have worked; Ed explained that the most effective method involves cutting the standing canes and then keeping the new bamboo shoots cut for three to five years, during which time the roots will expend their stored energy and die. Zach will finalize an application and we can work on the details to move forward. Ed suggested that the yard inspection program should look at invasive plants that are encroaching on the common areas from member's yards. This will ensure that members will not allow bamboo to escape out of their yards and go back into the forest.
- 8) Workday: Hillside Tunnel Trail Reroute Workday** The workday is scheduled for Saturday, 9/19 at 9:00 am by 3 Laurel Hill Court. We will fix up the inside trail, and then open the new trail on a future workday. (Bryan)
- 9) Workday: Wood Chip Pilot Area in Parcel S:** Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. 9:00 am. (Lori)
- 10) Planning for the plant swap and scavenger hunt** Lori will send out a draft of the plan. Date: Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. (Lori and Pat)
- 12) Check-out/future agenda items/evaluation/closing round**
  - **List action items from this meeting**
    - Review trail map that Bryan sent out, to add to new member packet. (Committee) (Lori will send this out))
    - Take photos of current and potential caretaker spaces and promote. (Pat and Lori)
    - Workday, October 3 – (Lori)
    - Plant Swap – October 17 – (Lori and Pat)
    - borrow the Jarvas' wheelbarrow (Ben)
    - Pat will send out examples of caretaker signs (Pat)
    - Greg will put in purchase order for sign for Canyon Creek Trail.