

FORESTRY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, May 3rd, 2023 @ 8:00 A.M.
Oconto City Hall Council Chambers

- 1.) Chairman Tom Sasse called the meeting to order @ 8:06 a.m.
- 2.) Roll Call: Nick Badendick, Tom Sasse, Susan K. Seidl, Jeff Werner. Also Present: Director of Park, Rec., and Forestry John Bostedt
- 3.) **Sasse called for nominations of Chairperson 3 times. With the nomination of Sasse it was requested nominations close by Werner and seconded by Badendick. (4 Ayes)**
- 4.) **Sasse called for the vote for Chairperson of the Forestry Committee. Werner and Badendick nominated Sasse who was unanimously voted as Chairperson of the Forestry Committee. (M/C)**
- 5.) **Nominations for Vice Chairperson were opened by Chairperson Sasse 3 times with Werner the nominee motioned by Seidl and Badendick. (4 Ayes)**
- 6.) **The vote for Werner as Vice Chairperson of the Forestry Committee was unanimously closed by the Committee. (M/C)**
- 7.) **Seidl motioned for approval of Agenda; Werner seconded. (4 Ayes)**
- 8.) **Approval of Meeting Minutes from 04/20/2023 was placed in motion by Sasse with a Werner second. (M/C)**
- 9.) Public Input: Badendick questioned who was in charge of the property @ the end of Jackson wherein a walkway ends to the Oconto marsh: Bostedt said it is DNR land and maintained accordingly. Both Badendick and Sasse remarked positively on the extended cleanup of our Sharp Park since we last met.
- 10.) Correspondence:
 - a.) Northeastern WI Forest Health Update - WI DNR The May issue has yet to arrive.
 - b.) Wisconsin Pollinators – “How Do Rainstorms Affect Honey Bees?” was the main subject this month. Werner commented on Honey Bee's ability to fly in rain: Sasse added that wind and mist are not good for them. Werner also commented on the amazing fact that earthworms are not native to WI.
 - c.) Wisconsin DNR- “Get Set for All Things Spring” was an informational article sent by Director Bostedt. Sasse indicated that he had spent voluntary time, when not working, surveying #s of frogs and toads: the DNR is looking for new volunteers.
- 11.) **Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:**
 - a.) *Future Tree Planting Areas* exist on an accumulated list.
 - b.) *Other City Website Ideas for Forestry Page*– Seidl brought a bulleted read-out on how to attract birds locally, from the Audubon Society, which will be added.
 - c.) *Sharp Park (Select Cut/Buckthorn/Clean Up)* This is our mission with Grants available.

d.) *Grants (Google Docs) for Buckthorn*– Director Bostedt distributed an e-mail from Garrett Sowle who seemed to be looking for Grants but now thinks there should be \$ in the City Budget: NOT. It is a disappointment that he seems to have abandoned his search and application for Grants though we are grateful for him introducing Stephanie Bowers who runs “Goats on the Go”.

Director Bostedt will check with Stephanie from “Goats on the Go” if she has gotten any outside Grant interest in our dilemma. Stephanie is offering her services to the City of Oconto with a generous discount.

e.) *From Stephanie: Sharp Park-What to Expect and Sharp Park Quote* was studied from last month with hopes of a Grant to begin the process.

f.) *2023 Arbor Day Tree Planting with 6th Graders* has been established: Thursday, May 18 with a Friday, May 19 rain date. Werner presented a schedule including the west Main St. historic homes tour. We will finish planting Harbor Road and.... There will be 21 students accompanied by a few teachers. It has been determined that pre-digging the tree holes is one of our best moves yet.

12.) Next Meeting Date/Time: **2023 Arbor Day Tree Planting with 6th Graders Thursday, May 18 @ 8:20 a.m. (Friday, May 19 rain date) AND Wednesday, June 14 regular meeting @ 8 a.m.**

Agenda Items: Removal, and placing of 2023 posters in City Hall; Discussion of 6th grade Arbor Day activities; Updates on Sharp Park Grants

13.) **Seidl summoned adjournment @ 8:59 a.m. Badendick motioned second. (M/C)**

Minutes submitted by Susan K. Seidl