

# Northwest Illinois Forestry Association

Minutes of November 9, 2004

In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Dick Pouzar called the regular meeting of the Northwest Illinois Forestry Association to order at 7:00 pm at the IDNR meeting room in Mt .Carroll.

## **TREASURERS REPORT**

Treasurer, Keith Arnold, reported that the NIFA has a total of \$8446.89 for all of the accounts. Keith reminded those present that dues for 2005 are due in January, but he would accept them early.

Patty Johnson moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Ralph Eads seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Keith Arnold then introduced a new NIFA member, Blaine Schoenhard. Blaine is a college student.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Vice- President, Dick Pouzar, reported that that the NIFA was approved for a \$4500 grant from the Forest Lands Enhancement Program. The grant is for developing an NIFA website, publishing a members products and services directory that contains forestry educational material, and conducting chain saw safety sessions.

Keith Arnold reported that a basic chain saw safety session was held October 16<sup>th</sup> at the Dave Seger Tree Farm near Thomson. Twenty-two people attended the session conducted by Armondo Actis from the Stihl Corporation.

Discussion continued on the chain saw safety sessions. It was suggested that NIFA have an advanced safety session in the spring put on by a FISTA representative.

Vice- President, Dick Pouzar, reminded those present that any additions or corrections to the new Forestry Products and Services Directory are due to him by November 14<sup>th</sup>. Dick continued that he had received 3 proposals from firms for developing the NIFA website. The proposals were from Echoes, Willis, and Chambers. Dick had put a comparison table on the blackboard so that all could see costs. After initial development, the annual costs ranged from \$500 to \$515.

Chris Kirkpatrick stated that the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation uses Echoes for their web site and are pleased with the company. Chris then moved to select Echoes for developing the NIFA website. Keith Arnold seconded the motion. Motion passed.

A domain name also needed to be selected. Dick Pouzar said that NIFA is already taken. Other names that are available are NWILForestry.org ; NWILtrees.org ; BlackhawkForestry.org . Michael Johnson moved that we select NWILtrees.org. Lee Freedlund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ralph Eads reported that approximately 100 people attended the Outstanding Illinois Tree Farmer Field Day at Michael and Patty Johnson's on Sept 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Vice- President , Dick Pouzar, called for suggestions for the NIFA 2005 agenda. The following suggestions were made:

- John Eisbach, Wooded Wonderland (Dick Pouzar will contact.)
- Forest Products Lab

- Oscar Gustus root grafting seminar in May
- Advanced chain saw safety session ( Dick Pouzar will contact FISTA)
- Garlic Mustard control efforts at Schurmeier Forest ( Chris Kirkpatrick will follow up on this.)
- Tree identification and Timber Stand Improvement session ( Ralph Eads will locate site.)
- Cy Bugner's Jackson Sawmill at Warren Parker's
- Machine and hand tree planting ( Ralph Eads will locate site.)
- Visit Bacon Verneer Company
- Woodland Protection possibilities by Tom and Janis Sleeter ( Patty Johnson will contact the Sleeter's and Chris Kirkpatrick will also work on this.)
- Landowner Liability ( Dick Pouzar will contact Farm Bureau for a possible speaker.)
- Jim Appleby-Educational speaker on Forestry ( Ralph Eads or Patty Johnson will make the contact.)

Several members were assigned follow-up for these ideas and bring results to the December meeting.

Vice- President , Dick Pouzar reminded everyone that election of officers and directors is scheduled for the December meeting.

Ralph Eads moved to adjourn the meeting. Chris Kirkpatrick seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek

NIFA Secretary