

Northwest Illinois Forestry Association

Minutes of November 4, 2008

President Tom Arnold called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm in the basement meeting room of the Stockton Public Library.

President Arnold asked if there were any changes or additions to the February 20th minutes. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve them. Lee Freedlund moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Keith Arnold seconded the motion. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Keith Arnold, reported that NIFA has a total of \$7,836.20 in all accounts.

OLD BUSINESS

President Arnold stated that he had not officially signed the document covering the management of Schurmeier Forest with the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation. He plans to sign it when it is presented to him.

NEW BUSINESS

President Arnold said the main focus of this meeting is to start developing the 2009 tour and meeting agenda.

Dave Harrison was unable to attend tonight, but sent an email message regarding another Blackhawk Hills RC&D forestry meeting. Dave would like to know what changes the NIFA would like to see in the next meeting. After discussion, the group agreed that moving the meeting sites around brings in new people to the meetings. Therefore, no major agenda changes are necessary. The group suggested moving the meeting site to the south part of our area would continue to reach new people.

Getting back to work on the 2009 agenda, the following ideas were suggested:

- * Tracey Export to discuss what to look for in high quality logs (January)
- * Dave Dornbusch to talk about biomass plantings including best trees, soils, etc. (February)
- * Tri State Forestry Conference at Sinsinawa Mound (March 14th)
- * NIFA Annual Dinner Meeting (March 24th)
- * Revisit Russell Roberts site for tree planting being performed by Kevin Oetken (April)
- * Schurmeier Forest spring tour (May)
- * Swiss Valley Nature Preserve (June)
- * Other ideas discussed without having a set date were:
 - Tour Wards Grove Timber
 - Tour Medallion Cabinet Factory
 - Follow up tour in woods to look for high quality logs

Several members were given responsibilities to follow up on these ideas and report back at the December meeting.

President Arnold asked those present about nominations for officers and directors. Several names were discussed. Annual elections will be held at the December meeting.

Treasurer, Keith Arnold, told the group that he still has approximately \$300 in the Walter Peaslee Memorial account. He asked for ideas on how to use the funds. One idea was to fund a forestry trophy for a 4H student. Jerry Misek was asked to contact Don and Mary Schavely to see if they had any ideas or if they thought the 4H trophy would be a fitting memorial.

Keith Arnold also reported to the group that the NIFA Power Pruner needs some work done on it. So far he has not found a place that will do the repairs.

There being no further business, President Arnold called for a motion to adjourn. Dick Pouzar made the motion and it was seconded by Lee Freedlund. Motion Passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek

NIFA Secretary