

Northwest Illinois Forestry Association

Minutes of November 10, 2009

President Tom Arnold called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm in the basement meeting room of the Stockton Public Library.

President Arnold asked if there were any changes or additions to the February 10th minutes. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve them. Alvin Wire moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Ralph Eads seconded the motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Dave Harrison reported on the October NIFA tour at Clayton Linscheid's. He said it was a rainy day but the weather broke just before the woods tour and the rain started again just after they finished the outside tour and were in Clayton's workshop.

Greg Hopton discussed the NIFA tour at Swiss Valley Nature Preserve. He said that maybe the weather was too nice and attendance was down. The group had a great tour of both the forest and the headquarters building.

Jerry Misek reported on the Walnut Council tour at Roger Thiele's. He said that it was an excellent tour with much "hands on" training. It was a 2 day tour but he only attended the first day.

NEW BUSINESS

President Arnold introduced Jeff Horn to the group. Jeff was recently hired by the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation and replaced Christie Trifone.

Dave Harrison discussed the forestry tours organized by the Blackhawk Hills RC&D the last two years. A grant was used to subsidize the cost of the tours. However, the grant monies have been spent and there are still some outstanding bills that need to be paid. On behalf of the RC&D, Dave Harrison moved that the NIFA send \$250 to the RC&D to help pay the remaining bills associated with the forestry programs. Lee Freedlund seconded the motion. The motion passed.

President Arnold called for ideas for the 2010 NIFA meeting and tour agenda .

For the January 12th meeting it was suggested to get a speaker that could discuss the forestry aspects of the new Farm Bill. Jerry Misek said that Jim Rittrebusch from the Stephenson County NRCS Office would be a good speaker. The group agreed and Jerry will contact Jim Ritterbusch to see if he is available.

There were no suggestions at present for the February 9th meeting. President Arnold asked those present to think about a program for that meeting and discuss it at the December meeting.

March 13th Tri State Forestry Conference at Sinsinawa Mound, Wisconsin

March 30th NIFA Annual Dinner Meeting at the Church of God in Mt. Carroll (guest speaker needed)
Ralph Eads will contact the Church to see if that date is available.

Other tour possibilities discussed include:

*Mike Jacobsen forest (Dave Harrison will check on this and propose a date.)

*Schurmeier Forest (Jeff Horn will get the dates of the spring and fall tours sponsored by the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation. It was further suggested to include either or both tree identification and timber

management in these tours.)

Bader Cabinet Factory (Jerry Misek will contact and get an available Saturday tour date in June, July, or August.)

*Wards Grove Timber (Tom Arnold will contact Ron Lawfer for possible tour dates.)

Other possible tour suggestions included:

*The broadcast tree planting done on the DNR land north of Elizabeth

*Glen Peterson sawmill operation

*Tree planting on the former Russell Roberts by Kevin Oetken

*Forestry on the Mississippi Islands by the Corps of Engineers

There being no further business, President Arnold called for a motion to adjourn. Ralph Eads made the motion and it was seconded by Lee Freedlund. Motion Passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek

NIFA Secretary