

# Northwest Illinois Forestry Association

Minutes of December 13, 2011

President Tom Arnold called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the basement meeting room of the Stockton Public Library.

President Arnold asked Secretary, Jerry Misek, to pass around the February 2011 minutes for members to see. After everyone has seen the minutes, he will call for corrections or approval later in the meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

President Arnold called for any old business.

Jerry Misek reported that no action has been taken by the State to quarantine the movement of Black Walnut wood with bark attached into Illinois from States that have the Thousand Canker Disease. He said that following the NIFA legislator's meeting, Representative, Jim Sacia, stated that he would look into the situation. It appears like it will take legislative action to get the quarantine in place.

Dick Pouzar asked if anyone had heard whether or not the RC&D Forest Service grant to write forest management plans had been approved. No one had heard. Dick will contact Julie Jacobs, RC&D Secretary to find out what has happened to the grant proposal.

President Arnold asked if anyone attended the biomass conference held in Dubuque in November. No one present had attended, but Extension Educator, Jay Solomon, stated that the conference had been held and he may be able to get some information on the conference.

President Arnold reported that he and Jerry Misek met with a Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation committee at Schurmeier Forest this fall. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the committee about the forest management plan on the west area of the forest. He emphasized that the next step in the plan is for a selective harvest. The group toured the forest after the committee business meeting.

Jeff Horn has since contacted President Arnold to set up a time to have the Foundation Board of Directors meet at Schurmeier Forest and tour the managed area. The tour has not been scheduled yet.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

President Arnold stated that the main item of business for the meeting was to develop a meeting and tour agenda for 2012. He continued that November and December are business meetings and January and February are inside meetings with guest speakers. He then asked those present for ideas for speakers or tours.

Greg Hopton offered two tours. One of Siemen Woodworks featuring cabinet making in East Dubuque and the other is Knotty Ideas Woodworking specializing in scrollwork and solar kiln near Scales Mound. Greg will contact Knotty Ideas for a February tour and Siemen Woodworks for a July tour.

President Arnold offered to host a tour of his woodlands showing a recent harvest and another area that had been harvested about 15 years ago to see the regrowth. October 13<sup>th</sup> is the tentative date.

Nasuh Katib offered to have a tour of his CRP tree planting that is about 20 years old. The stand will be thinned this winter. The date was tentatively set for May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Jerry Misek welcomed the group to tour his forest with the Illinois Tree Farm Field Day September 29<sup>th</sup>. It would be an all day tour with a meal provided. At the invitation of the Illinois Tree Farm Committee, the Illinois Forestry Association is planning a joint conference of all four Illinois forest landowner organizations on the 28<sup>th</sup> in Elizabeth at HCC West to discuss issues critical to forestry in the state. In addition, the IFA would hold their annual meeting the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> At HCC West and tour the Misek Tree Farm on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

Since the Tri State Forestry Conference is scheduled for March 10<sup>th</sup>, the NIFA Annual Dinner Meeting will be held March 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>, depending on the main speaker's schedule. Dick Pouzar will contact Frederick Miller. Frederic Miller is a plant pathologist with Morton's Arboretum and has completed the first year of a multi-year study of the prevalence of tree insect pests and disease vectors in the state, specifically across northern Illinois. Dick will then notify Ralph Eads who will arrange for the meeting place and the caterers.

Jay Solomon suggested holding a fruit tree pruning demonstration. He thought Extension Service could do most of the planning work, but needed to have a site for the demonstration. President Arnold will contact Tim Keller about the correct timing and suggesting a site.

President Arnold said that he had been contacted about NIFA holding another chain saw safety session. August would be open for the session. Dick Pouzar will contact an Extension Specialist at Dixon Springs about conducting the session.

Jerry Misek suggested that the June session be on transferring the forests onto the next owners. Dick Pouzar has a set of DVD's developed by Oregon State University that sets the stage for family discussions of the topic. The session would be 4 hours long and a workbook would need to be purchased by the participants for a cost of \$25.

President Arnold called for ideas for the January meeting. Dick Pouzar suggested Tom Sleeter to be the speaker on estate planning covering landowner liability protection and reducing inheritance tax exposure.

Dick Pouzar suggested that a possible tour of Mississippi Palisades State Park could demonstrate treatments to eliminate invasive species, the emergence of native plant understory including spring ephemerals, and mature American chestnut trees. President Arnold asked Dick to follow up with IDNR Biologist Ed Anderson on possible dates in April.

President Arnold moved on to the next order of business, which was election of officers

and directors for NIFA. After a brief discussion, Ralph Eads moved to elect the present slate of officers and the two directors whose terms are expiring. Alvin Wire seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The officers are: Tom Arnold, President

Dick Pouzar, Vice President

Keith Arnold, Treasurer

Jerry Misek, Secretary

The reelected directors are: Greg Hopton

Dave Harrison

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer, Keith Arnold reported that NIFA has a total of \$8,331.50 in all accounts. He also reported that he had received 2 thank you notes from the 4-H winners of the Forestry projects. He said NIFA donates \$20 for the trophies and asked if that was enough.

Dick Pouzar moved to increase the donation to \$30. Lee Freedlund seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer Arnold continued saying that he had a letter from the bank requesting a Tax ID number for NIFA. He asked if anyone knew what the tax number was. No one did. After closely reading the fine print in the letter, there was a contact number to request a tax ID number. Keith will follow up on getting the number.

President Arnold then asked for approval of the NIFA February 2011 minutes as printed. Dick Pouzar moved to accept the minutes. Alvin Wire seconded the motion. Motion carried.

President Arnold then called for any further business. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn. Ralph Eads moved to adjourn the meeting. Dick Pouzar seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek

NIFA Secretary