



Northwest Illinois  
Forestry Association  
Woodland Owners  
Sharing Ideas on  
Forest Productivity

## **Northwest Illinois Forestry Association**

Minutes of January 8, 2019

President Tom Arnold called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Officers and Directors present for the business meeting were: Tom Arnold, Dick Pouzar, Lee Freedlund, Ken Beach, Jim Breed, Alvin Wire, and Jerry Misek.

President Arnold called for any additions or corrections to the December 11th minutes. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Jim Breed moved to approve the minutes. Ken Beach seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Pouzar handed out the annual financial report as required according to the bylaws that showed itemized 2017 and 2018 expenses and income. The report also showed the 2018 budgeted items. Total 2018 income stands at \$ 3506 and total expenses at \$3387.

Jim Breed moved to accept the annual financial report. Ken Beach seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer Pouzar then called attention to the 2019 projected Budget and asked for comments. Hearing none, Jerry Misek moved that we approve the 2019 budget as submitted. Jim Breed seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

President Arnold called for any old business and suggested we work on the bylaws. Treasurer Pouzar was appointed to make appropriate changes to the bylaws to bring them up to date. He handed out copies of the proposed bylaws with the amendments included. Discussion followed noting a change of Officer positions. The Editor position was removed and a Media Manager position added as were the duties of the new position.

It was noted that the section on dues may not need to be in the bylaws. However, to keep moving forward, it was decided to leave the dues section in the bylaws for now. Maybe in future bylaw amendments it can be removed.

After the discussions, President Arnold called for a motion to approve the bylaws as presented. Ken Beach moved to approve the bylaws as amended. Ken Polhamus seconded the motion. Motion passed.

President Arnold reminded the group, that since we were short on time at the December meeting, the election of officers and directors was postponed to the January meeting. President Arnold then opened nominations for the officer positions noting that we have a new position as Media Manager and asked that nominations be conducted one position at a time with the nominated person stating their willingness to serve. Below is the list of positions with confirmation to serve by the nominees:

President—Tom Arnold  
Vice President—Alvin Wire  
Secretary—Jerry Misek  
Treasurer—Ken Beach  
Media Manager—Dick Pouzar

Then President Arnold called for nominations for the 3 year term of Director. Below is the directors nominated with confirmation of acceptance for the position.

Director—Kevin Cahill  
Director—Ken Polhamus  
Director—John Schroeder (2 year position to fill the position previously held by Ken Beach)

President Arnold then called for a motion to elect the above slate of Officers and Directors.  
Jim Breed moved to elect the nominees. Lee Freedlund seconded the motion. Motion passed.

President Arnold then directed attention to the matter of what to donate to the Stockton Public Library. He had met with the Librarian and asked about donating Forestry related books. He also asked if there was a charge for non-profit groups to use the Library meeting room. Although there is no definite charge, most groups pay \$25 for the use of the room. Since NIFA has not paid for use of the room in the past, there was discussion on what to donate.

Items brought up included starting a Forestry section in the Library and donating books to that section. The discussion also raised the idea of individual members donating books to that section with several members saying they would have books to donate. Treasurer, Pouzar noted that the family of David Seger has donated \$50 to NIFA. He continued saying that NIFA could use that donated money to purchase a plaque that could be placed in the Library near the Forestry section.

The discussion continued noting that the Library operates on a recognized system of placing books so they may not be in favor of a special section on Forestry. Also they may have policies about displaying plaques. President Arnold will discuss this matter with the Librarian before proceeding with the donations.

It was also suggested to appoint a committee to make suggestions as to what Forestry books to purchase. Dick Pouzar was appointed to draw up a proposal for the library.

Finally, Ralph Eads moved to donate \$500 to the library now and then donate \$100 every year we are using the Library for NIFA meetings. Ken Polhamus seconded the

motion. The motion passed.

Dick Pouzar discussed NIFA's position with the US Internal Revenue Service. Since we have not been doing anything in the past with IRS, they have revoked the non-profit status from NIFA. To regain the non-profit status, a couple of forms will need to be filled out and pay a \$600 fee. Then in the future, a postcard type form will need to be completed and sent each year to the IRS. He also said that since NIFA makes so little money, we could forget the non-profit status and pay a small amount each year in taxes. If we choose that option, then anyone making donations to NIFA could not deduct those donations from their income taxes. After discussion on this matter, Ken Polhamus moved to pay the \$600 fee to IRS and submit the proper paperwork to regain the non-profit status for NIFA. Dick Pouzar seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dick Pouzar will work with new Treasurer, Ken Beach, to complete the required forms and pay the fees to get this matter rectified with IRS.

President Arnold then moved the discussion on to working on the 2019 meeting and tour agenda.

The February business meeting was planned to be a joint meeting with the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation. It has been suggested that a more informal meeting be used to discuss common goals. Jay Solomon will set up this meeting.

Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> business meeting will be in the Stockton Public Library with continued work on the 2019 meeting and tour agenda. New Melleray Abbey Forester, John Schroeder will be the featured speaker.

March 26<sup>th</sup> will be the Annual Dinner meeting, Forester Steve Felt will be the featured speaker. His topic will be tree selection based on soil types and site conditions.

April 20<sup>th</sup> will be a tour at the Tom Arnold Tree Farm featuring natural forest regeneration following different timber harvests.

May will feature a tour of the Larry Priske Tree Farm to see the effects and benefits of pre-commercial thinning that was performed several years ago as well as hear from a logger, forester, and land owner on their thoughts on timber harvesting.

June will have a tour covering the results of the fall aerial spraying to control Bush Honeysuckle at the Brad Petersburg farm. This tour is conditional pending the effectiveness of the spraying that will be evident in the spring.

July 13<sup>th</sup> will be a session on pruning and coppicing Oak and Walnut trees at the Phillip Brown farm.

August will possibly be an indoor session on the Gypsy Moth and other invasive insects with Jay Solomon looking into arranging the meeting.

September 21<sup>st</sup> will be a tour of the Johnson Creek Hardwood's business.

The fourth week of September (23-26) will be targeted for conducting chain saw safety classes. Jay Hayek will be the instructor. Presently 4 sessions are being considered. There will be 2 beginners sessions and 2 advanced sessions. Both Tom Arnold and Jim Breed offered their Tree Farms as places to hold the sessions. The Galena Territory may

also have a site for a session or two.

October is open and Dick Pouzar suggested that Jay Solomon locate someone to lead a field exercise on eradicating woody invasive plants in the fall.

November and December will be business meetings.

### **New Business**

President Arnold called for any new business. Hearing none, he moved on to the evenings featured Speaker.

### **Featured Speaker**

President Arnold introduced Olivia Rauen, Forester with the Wild Turkey Federation. Olivia's topic was on Oak regeneration. She started out with explaining how our present Oak forests came to be. She stressed that Oaks need direct sunlight to reproduce and with no management our forests will eventually turn to shade tolerant species. The shade tolerant species have lower commercial value as well as lower wildlife nutrition. She went on to discuss the many hazards in getting Oaks to grow: deer browse, invasive species, competition for light, increased need for management, etc. As an immediate action forest owners can take, Olivia discussed removing competing trees and shrubs from young Oak trees to allow them sunlight and room to grow.

There being no further business, President Arnold asked for a motion to adjourn. Ken Polhamus moved to adjourn the meeting. Lee Freedlund seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek

NIFA Secretary