



Northwest Illinois
Forestry Association
Woodland Owners
Sharing Ideas on
Forest Productivity

Northwest Illinois Forestry Association

Minutes of November 12, 2019

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

Officers and Directors present for the business meeting were: Tom Arnold, Kevin Cahill, Ken Beach, Greg Hopton, and Jerry Misek.

President Arnold reviewed the February 27th minutes and asked for any comments. Since the minutes were not sent out with the meeting announcement, he did not call for a motion to approve.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Beach reported that there is about \$5,000 in checking, \$2,000 in a CD and \$4,000 in a second CD.

Treasurer Beach asked if he should do an annual Treasurer's report in December or January. It was decided to wait until January so a full year report could be done.

Kevin Cahill moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Greg Hopton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

President Arnold stated that he had met with the Librarian to get a list of books NIFA could donate to the Library. He expected to see the list of books in the meeting room tonight, but it was not there. Originally we had agreed to donate Forestry related books to the Library for a total of about \$500. This is to show appreciation to the Library for use of their meeting room. Hopefully we can complete this item at the next meeting.

President Arnold also said that we will stay with our present web host, Wild Apricot, for now.

OLD BUSINESS

President Arnold called for any new business. Hearing none he moved on to planning for the 2020 meeting and tour agenda.

President Arnold started out by explaining that the chain saw safety sessions were well attended this year. A total of 27 people attended the 4 sessions. Of the four sessions, 3 were for level 1 and the other was for the advanced, level 2. He said he was surprised about the number of women attending these sessions and suggested we hold them again in the last week of September in 2020 with Jay Hayek as the instructor.

Greg Hopton suggested a tour of a wood museum in Clinton, Iowa. He will contact the museum to inquire about a hosting a tour.

President Arnold received an email from Tom Sleeter with some tour suggestions. The first was to inquire about White Oak markets for making barrels. He also thought a discussion about the situation with lumber markets with China would be a productive session. Another idea was to hold a session with a person that has 1938 aerial photos that show forest soils and the land cover at that time. These can be compared to present aerial photos of the same areas to see trends.

Continuing on the timber marketing theme, Jerry Misek suggested getting Bill Mitchel to discuss his markets for Black Locust and Red Cedar. Mr. Mitchell uses both of these species in his business. Mr. Misek will make the contact to see if this could be a winter meeting session.

President Arnold suggested that a tour of the Stone Hollow Garden Shoonery. They grow 7 mushroom species in their woods. A tour in May would probably work best. President Arnold will contact the owners to see if they would sponsor a tour.

President Arnold also mentioned that John Schroder may want to give NIFA a tour of his work at the New Mellary Abby.

Ken Beach said that last year's tour on tree identification was well received and he would be willing to do it again, but at a different site. Site suggestions were: Galena Territory, Schurmeier Forest, and the former Shimer College campus.

Other suggestions for possible tours were: solar energy production, Christmas Tree Farm (John Lundquist), wild bird populations (Terry Ingram), an entomologist covering forest insects.

Jay Solomon said that he and Olivia Ramen are planning to hold a Forestry session in the winter as a follow up to last year's session on managing forest understory and edges.

There being no further business, President Arnold asked for a motion to adjourn. Ralph Eads moved to adjourn the meeting. Ken Beach seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek
NIFA Secretary