



Northwest Illinois
Forestry Association
Woodland Owners
Sharing Ideas on
Forest Productivity

Northwest Illinois Forestry Association

Minutes of December 10, 2019

President Tom Arnold called the meeting to order at 6.58 pm at the meeting room in the Stockton Library.

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

President Arnold asked for any additions or corrections for the November 12th minutes. Hearing none he called for a motion to approve the minutes. Greg Hopton moved to approve the minutes. Kevin Cahill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Beach reported that there is \$4988.11 in checking with \$65.00 to be deposited, \$2,040.35 in an 18 month CD and \$4,241.13 in a 60 month CD.

He also stated that 44 cents is being charged for each membership that is paid for online.

Kevin Cahill moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Lee Freedlund seconded the motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

President Arnold discussed the chain saw safety sessions that were held this year. The comments that he has received were very positive and that Jay Hayek does a good job of explaining chain saw maintenance as well as all of the safety aspects of using a chain saw. Two level one sessions were held and one level two session and the weather cooperated for all of the sessions.

For the coming year President Arnold expects to have 2 sessions for each of the two levels. Jay Hayek will be the instructor and he will choose the dates for the September sessions.

Moving on to other items for the 2020 agenda, Ken Beach said he had contacted John

Walsh to do a session on forest entomology for the February meeting. Mr. Walsh could not do the session, but recommended Scott Schirmer. Mr Schirmer agreed to do the February session.

For the January meeting, Jerry Misek reported that Bill Mitchell has not responded yet to do a marketing session on Black Locust and Red Cedar. Another suggestion for the January meeting was Jay Hayek.

In planning for the March Annual Dinner meeting, President Arnold asked if anyone knew the date for the Tri State Forestry Conference. Jay Solomon responded that the conference will be March 14th and added that it will be at Highland Collage in Freeport this year. President Arnold then suggested that we plan for March 24th as the date for the Annual Dinner meeting unless our featured speaker needed a different date.

President Arnold then asked for possible Annual Dinner meeting speakers. Discussion followed with the ideas for Jay Hayek, Terry Ingram or someone from the Sawmill Museum in Clinton. Greg Hopton will follow up on contacting the Sawmill Museum personnel.

The meeting departed from agenda items when Spike Magee arrived and had questions about the species of two wood samples he brought in. Everyone looks at the samples but no definitive identifications were made. Spike has a reclaimed lumber business and takes down old unwanted buildings and repurposes the lumber.

Returning to the agenda items, for April we have 2 choices: Greg Hopton tour featuring a recent timber harvest, new tree plantings, and looking at Walnut trees to determine if they should have corrective pruning or coppicing. The second choice would be to tour the Stone Hollow Garden Shoonery and seeing mushrooms growing on raised beds in the woods.

For May, President Arnold will contact John Schroder for a possible tour of his work at New Mellary Abby.

On June 27th we will tour the John Lundquist Christmas Tree Farm and observe shearing conifer trees to shape them for future Christmas trees.

July 18th will be a tour of the Sawmill Museum in Clinton. Dick Pouzar said there is a charge of \$3.00 per person for the tour and asked if NIFA should pick up the costs.

August is open and may be used to reschedule one of the earlier tours due to weather or other conflicts.

On September 12th, Ken Beach will lead a tree identification tour at Schurmeier Forest.

Also in September will be the 4 chain saw safety sessions led by Jay Hayek.

On October 17th, Ken Polhamus will conduct a tour featuring wildlife habitat on his land.

NEW BUSINESS

Jay Solomon announced two meetings that Extension Service and the National Wild Turkey Federation are sponsoring at the Elizabeth Community Building. The first meeting will be held in the afternoon of January 15th and will cover timber sales and marketing. The second meeting will be the morning of January 16th and will cover

woodland management practices. University of Illinois Extension Forester will be the featured speaker at both meetings.

President Arnold called for any other new business. Hearing none he moved on to the election of officers and directors. A discussion followed on how to get younger people involved with this organization. It was noted that it is also difficult to find people wanting to take leadership roles.

President Arnold then asked each one of the present officers if they wished to continue in their positions. All answered that they would. Directors Lee Freedlund and Jim Breed have their 3 year position coming to an end. President Arnold asked if they wish to continue. Jim Breed said he would but Lee Freedlund responded that he would like to retire from being a director. Discussion followed as to who could fill that position. It was suggested that Jay Solomon take that position. Jay agreed. Lee Freedlund moved to nominate Jay Solomon for the position of director. Kevin Cahill seconded the motion. Motion passed.

President Arnold then listed the following slate of officers and directors and asked for a motion to elect.

President---Tom Arnold
Vice President---Alvin Wire
Treasurer---Ken Beach
Secretary---Jerry Misek
Media Manager---Dick Pouzar
Director---Jim Breed
Director---Jay Solomon

Ken Polhamus moved to elect the slate of officers and directors. Greg Hopton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dick Pouzar then suggested that we contact IDNR Forester, Paul Bane, about putting the NIFA flyer in his correspondence with forest landowners. Mr. Pouzar will make the contact.

Ken Beach shared an observation concerning the recent Jo Daviess plat book. He said that there are a lot of land trusts, banks, and companies listed as land owners and wondered how this trend will effect woodland management.

President Arnold asked if there is any more new business. Hearing none he called for a motion to adjourn. Ken Polhamus moved to adjourn. Dick Pouzar seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek

NIFA Secretary

