

Poland Municipal Forest Board Meeting – Poland Village Hall – August 27, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by the chair

Board Members Present:

James Brammer

Bob Elias

Sam Moffie, Councilman

Dr. Ian Renne

Mark Thompson

Elinor Zedaker, Chair

Approval of July 23, 2019 Forest Board Minutes: Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes, Moffie seconded. All said AYE.

Reports:

- **Mauthe Bridge Oversight-** Moffie stated that the bridge oversight committee had received two quotes and will be reviewing and making a recommendation to village council.
- **EnviroScience-** A motion to accept the EnviroScience report was made by Elias and seconded by Thompson. All said AYE. Julie Bingham is prepared to make a presentation about the report whenever possible.
- **Butler Trail Culvert-** Dominion has visited the site again. There was no update on a plan for fixing the problem.

Other Business:

- **Deer Over Population Issue-** Renne discussed his deer discussion that he presented at the Library. Renne explained that there is an overpopulation of deer and discussed the importance of thinning the herd for benefits to the forest. Renne agreed to be the liaison for the deer management initiative in the forest.
- **Deer Exclosure Near College Lane Entrance-** Renne said that the material for the fence is no problem to find. Elias stated that he may know some volunteers to help build the fence, possibly the BSA.
- **Invasive Species-** Brammer discussed the meeting and walk about that took place in the forest with State Forester Ryan Cluster and Mark Thompson. Cluster pointed out many problems with the long list of invasive plants that have invaded our forest and recommended that a management plan be implemented. Brammer agreed to be the liaison for the invasive species project.

- ***Good Neighbor***- Elias planted the Gutnecht Trail Entrance with evergreens. Jim Ramer a village resident contributed to the project.
- ***Request to Convene Forest Board at 7:00***- Moffie made a motion to start the Forest Board meeting at 7:00pm. Elias seconded the motion. All said AYE, The September meeting will start at 7:00pm.

New Business:

- The board discussed allowing Sarah Nilson, PhD, Assistant Professor of Biology Penn State University, to do plant research in the forest. Renne made a motion to allow Professor Nilson to do plant research in the forest, Thompson seconded. All said AYE. The motion passed.
- Moffie discussed his outreach to Congressman Tim Ryan about money appropriation for the Poland Municipal Forest.
- Moffie talked about the need to hold elections for official positions on the Forest Board. The board discussed the topic and it was decided to wait until after the new board member is appointed.
- Thompson discussed some of the forest management practices that he witnessed out West this summer.

Public Comment:

- A resident thanked Renne for his deer discussion; asked if the board minutes could be uploaded onto the web site; the resident passed out copies of his notes about the EnviroScience report and ask if a more clear version of the report will be available.
- A resident had questions on who will be overseeing the Mauthe Bridge management.

Adjourn:

- Brammer made a motion to adjourn, Moffie seconded. All said AYE.

The next Forest Board meeting will be September 24, at 7:00pm.