

## **Poland Municipal Forest Board Meeting – Poland Village Hall- February 25, 2020**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by the chair

### **Board Members Present:**

James Brammer

Bob Elias

Chris Graff, *Council Representative*

Dr. Ian Renne

BJ Sulka

Mark Thompson

Elinor Zedaker, *Chair*

**Quorum:** Yes

**Approval of January 28, 2020 Forest Board Minutes:** A motion was made by Graff to approve the January 28<sup>th</sup> minutes with the word Boardman to be changed to boardwalk; Elias seconded. All voted AYE.

**Garlic Mustard Pull:** The Board announced the Garlic Mustard Pull will be April the 18<sup>th</sup> from 9-12. Volunteers are needed. Brammer noted that he has a conflict on that date and cannot attend.

**EnviroScience:** There will be a special meeting regarding the EnviroScience report on Thursday, February the 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 6:00 at the Village Hall.

**Bluebells:** There will be a bluebell blooming status on the Forest Boards website.

**Mauthe Bridge:** There was nothing to report at this time.

**Dominion Gas Line:** Thompson reported that Dominion is still waiting on the EPA permit.

**Invasive Species:** Brammer reported that he will contact a contractor to discuss the project in the forest.

**Deer Overpopulation:** The Board discussed controlling the deer population. Renne offered to give another discussion to the public for education on the topic. Geoffrey Westerfield from ODNR sent a proposal for a forest event to a discussion with the Board about having a field day in the forest with ODNR. The field day would consist of multiple stations educating the public on a variety of forest related topics. A decision to move forward with the idea was agreed upon. Thompson will reach out to ODNR officer Geoffrey Westerfield to check his availability. Elias noted that a number of volunteers would be needed to staff the various stations beyond just the Forest Board members.

**Deer Exclosure:** Thompson commented that a site has not been determined yet for the second deer exclosure. The existing deer exclosure fence is in need of repair due to dead ash trees have smashed the sections. Volunteers have cut the fallen trees but the fence needs put back up.

**Public Comments:** A resident of the Village wanted to know if EnviroScience will present to Village Council. A second resident requested that the Board schedules another public meeting from EnviroScience to allow more time and publicity. A third resident commented that an educational seminar would be good to put on the web site for more people to see; and also suggested the Forest Board have a booth at Celebrate Poland in June.

**Other Business:** Thompson mentioned the volunteer efforts in the forest. The boardwalk boards were replaced on one of the bridges and trail. A dangerous tree was removed near Bluebell Trail. All of the trails were cleared between Butler and Bluebell.

There was a discussion between Board members and the audience about the EnviroScience meeting. Thompson stated that this meeting is meant for education and is the first step of many. A resident asked that we have more than one meeting.

**Adjourn:** Sulka made a motion to adjourn, Brammer seconded. All said AYE.