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Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by the Chair.

Board Members Present:

James Brammer

Ian Renne

BJ Sulka

Mark Thompson

Elinor Zedaker, *Chair*

Board Members Excused:

Bob Elias

Chris Graff, *Village Council Representative*

Quorum: Yes

Approval of August 24, 2021, Forest Board Minutes: Correction was made to the August 24th minutes to include BJ Sulka as present. Brammer made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, Sulka seconded, all said AYE.

Approval of September 28, 2021, Forest Board Minutes: Thompson made a motion to accept the minutes, Brammer seconded, all said AYE.

Finance Report: The unencumbered balance is \$25,257.67. There were no outstanding balances. Sulka asked if IT Solutions invoice had been paid? In the absence of Treasurer Elias, Zedaker confirmed it had been paid. Brammer made a motion to accept the Financial Report, Thompson seconded, all said AYE.

Invasive Species: Brammer spoke about the amount of work that Davey Resource Group (DRG) has done in the forest to date. Thompson made comments on the density of the invasive vegetation. Renne asked to have an in-depth report and research plan. Research about invasive species and treatment methods can be found on ODNR website and many other States' websites.

ODNR: Thompson spoke about the projects to be funded by the State of Ohio Budget allocation through S.B. 310 and will be managed through ODNR. Village administration and Forest Board members have been pulling information together and are preparing to submit the report to ODNR.

Dog Waste Station: Information was presented about dog waste stations from research done by Graff and Sulka. Graff, in a letter he addressed to the Board, proposed that three dog waste stations be purchased and placed at certain locations in the forest. These units are like the ones installed at Poland Fireman's Field on Riverside Drive. Graff spoke to Mr. Clavin, Street Commissioner, about emptying the waste bags on their weekly trash pick-up route. This will be possible. The price per unit is roughly \$250.00

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weekly trash pick-up route. This will be possible. The price per unit is roughly \$250.00 and the replacement bags are \$15.00 per box. The Board discussed many aspects and locations of the dog waste stations. Brammer made a motion that three dog waste stations be purchased for the Poland Municipal Forest, not to exceed \$900.00. Sulka seconded the motion, all said AYE. Graff will propose to Council at the next council meeting.

Restoration of College Lane Parking Lot: Thompson spoke about the College Lane entrance. East Fairfield 50 tons of limestone gravel for Forest volunteers to cover the area. A volunteer used their own impactor to help set the gravel into place. Renne mentioned that it was unfortunate that the gravel delivery would have conflicted with the electro fishing demonstration scheduled and approved for that day; however, the demonstration had cancelled prior to the delivery; therefore, no overlap occurred.

Other Business: Renne spoke about the signage for the deer enclosure. The sign will cover educational aspects of the enclosure and the importance of proper deer management. Renne suggested using a Q reader code to take the user to an informational video. Thompson suggested the signage reflect the target audience of visitors who may not be prepared for scientific text. Possibly the wording could be edited to make it easier for a general audience. A group discussion was held about format, color, and sizing of the sign.

Renne asked about the slippery surface on boardwalks, ramps and bridges. Thompson mentioned a few ideas and the board discussed options. We will continue to research ideas that will improve the surfaces.

Public Comments: A resident had seen a potential solution and suggested chicken wire for an anti-slip surface. There was a complaint about the invasive species spraying, by a visitor who wanted to exercise their puppy in the forest and was concerned. A resident complained about the timing of the gravel delivery at the College Lane parking lot. He said it could have interfered with a planned event if that event had not cancelled. A resident reported location of a potentially dangerous tree.

Adjourn: Since there was no further business to come before the Board, Renne made a motion to adjourn, Brammer seconded, and all said AYE. 8:20 PM.

Next Forest Board meeting: Tuesday, November 23, 2021, at 7:00 pm, Village Hall.

