

Poland Municipal Forest Board Meeting, Tuesday, November 23, 2021, Village Hall

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

Board Members Present:

Bob Elias

Chris Graff

B.J Sulka

Dr. Ian Renne

Mark Thompson

Elinor Zedaker, Chair

Absent Excused:

James Brammer

Quorum: Yes

Approval of October 26th, Forest Board Minutes: Sulka made motion to accept the minutes, Thompson seconded, all said AYE.

Financial Report: Expenditures reviewed \$5,000 to Davey Resources Group (DRG) for the treatment of invasive species. \$885.73 to Fairfield Coal for gravel to repair College Street entrance parking area. A contribution was received from William MacIntosh in memory of his brother John MacIntosh for \$2,500. Zedaker gave a brief history of John McIntosh and his family. A thank you note with a gift receipt will be sent to the family. An unencumbered balance of \$20,199.59 was reported by Elias. Thompson moved to accept the financial report, Sulka seconded, all said AYE.

Updates: Thompson gave a brief update on the status with ODNR. Most of the information has been put together. There will be one more meeting scheduled with the administration, with the fiscal officer and solicitor.

Graff reported the Dog Waste receptacles have been ordered (and have been received). Positioning for them will be discussed to provide the best advantage of their use. Sulka and Graff gathered material for this project.

Indian Trail Entrance. Thompson reported that he and his crew cleaned up debris from a fallen Ash tree and replaced the rotten gates with new ones at the entrance. Some additional gravel will be required to level over some potholes in the parking area. A resident has offered to donate the gravel and use of his compactor.

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Other Business: A discussion took place concerning better coordinating of forest activities and volunteer work crews where possible. The example of the Electro-fishing parking lot closure was brought up; however, the event had been cancelled earlier in the week due to illness.

Renne commented on the topic of educational programs and the ability of the presenter being allowed to charge a fee when these take place. A lengthy discussion took place. Programs or events can ask for a donation but cannot charge a fee.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Poland Lion's Club asking to donate a bench made from recycled materials. It was suggested that the might consider making a donation to the Forest Foundation in the name of the Poland Lion's Club.

Public Comments: A resident stated that education is fundamental and should be encouraged to take place in the forest. He feels the board should find a way to allow for educational fees to be charged.

Julie Bartalone, a non-resident, requested in advance to make comment at this meeting. She operates "Wild You" which is a 501(c)(3). She explained that that all the money charged as fees for her workshops for you children are used to cover supplies and expenses. It was suggested that since she had then profit designation, she could request a grant from a group such as the Friends of the Forest or request a program be underwritten by a donor or donors.

Next Meeting: A discussion was held, and a decision was made by consensus to suspend the December meeting. The next meeting of the Forest Board will be held at 7:00 PM January 25, 2022 at Village Hall. Renne made the motion to adjourn, Elias seconded, all said AYE. Happy Thanksgiving to all.