

MEETING OF THE POLAND FOREST BOARD
Tuesday, May 23, 2017
Poland Village Hall

PRESENT: James Brammer, Bob Elias, Frank Krygowski, Joe Mazur, Beth Queen, Mark Thompson, Elinor Zedaker

GUESTS: Bill Dunnavant (Village Council) and other citizens

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M.

APPROVAL OF APRIL MINUTES: Mark requested that the minutes mention that project proposals he made in the April meeting referred to numerous improvements at two entrances and the Zedaker Pavilion area. And although not noted in the minutes, there was an April motion approved to move forward with those projects, contingent on funding. After discussion, James re-made that motion and Joe seconded. The motion passed. With those notes, the minutes were approved.

FOREST FOUNDATION FUNDING: Mark and Elinor were invited to a Forest Foundation meeting where they presented the aforementioned project proposals as a detailed list with estimated costs. The Foundation voted to approve the projects. There were questions about funding for other Forest needs: culvert cleanouts, Mauthe bridge repair and maintenance, erosion control, etc. Mark reported that Village funds were recently used to clean twin Butler Trail culverts, since it was deemed an emergency. Since entrance beautification uses a very significant portion of the Foundation's treasury, the Foundation anticipates a capital campaign. There is hope a special Forest levy will pass in November, providing continuous Forest funding.

THREE FUNDED PROJECTS: Mark says masons should start work in July on maintenance of entrance stonework and rebuilding the Zedaker Pavilion chimney. Frank asked about repairing the Pavilion's badly rotted structural eave log. Beth asked if the Eagle Scout who built the kiosk will be notified that it will be moved. Elinor will do so. Frank asked that the Forest Board be kept informed about decisions on these projects. Mark agreed. Joe moved and Bob seconded that Mark act as project coordinator. The motion passed.

GUTKNECHT SEWER LINE WORK: The improved sewer line under Gutknecht Trail from Butler Trail to College St. is still being designed. Construction won't start until September at the earliest, and probably much later. As with the McKinley Trail phase completed in 2015, Gary Diorio of MS Consultants will be asked to present plans to the Forest Board for input and approval.

FOREST BUDGET: The proposed new Forest ordinance requires submitting an annual budget during January. Bill Dunnavant suggested consulting with Rebecca Rogers and Nick Srnec.

FOREST HAZARDS: The Village's insurance company wants a plan for identification and mitigation of hazards in the Forest. Frank said the Miller management plan's recommendation regarding hazardous trees is excessive, since tree fall injuries are very rare and a 100 foot tree can't realistically injure a walker 100 feet away. James agreed and noted there is no money for 100 feet clearance. Bill asked we "go minimalist" and present a plan to Council, concentrating on trees in high traffic areas.

LABOR PERMITS AND WAIVERS: Mark presented a revised, more readable permit and waiver form for Forest volunteers. Bill and Mark said community projects should not require signatures from every volunteer, nor should spontaneous repairs such as replacing shifted boardwalks. Frank noted this is a much more reasonable policy than what was originally presented.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES: Beth asked if there are plans to replace the memorial plaques honoring Grace Butler and the Bremner family that were vandalized in 2012 or 2013. These will be reattached and/or replaced. The boulder holding the Butler plaque will be raised. The plaque honoring the Gutknechts at Indian Trail will also get enhancements.

SIGNAGE: Bill Dunnavant reminded the Board that the village solicitor wants wording for hazard warning signs to be posted at Forest entrances. Mark and Elinor said this hasn't been forgotten.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank Krygowski, secretary pro tem.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY JUNE 27, 2017 at 7:30 P.M.