

MEETING OF THE POLAND FOREST BOARD
Tuesday, September 26, 2017
Poland Village Hall

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

GUESTS: Gordon Longmuir

The meeting was called to order at 7:35

MINUTES: The minutes of the July and August 2017 meetings were approved as submitted.

ARBOR DAY OF SERVICE: James Brammer has promises from four tree companies, including his own, to trim hazardous trees near Bluebell Trail on November 4, 2017. Approximately 12 men will work half a day. Spotters, barriers and information sheets will protect the public. Vindicator publicity will be sought. Beth will get hooded sweatshirts for tokens of thanks. Frank worried about excessive cutting and noted that Village Council called for minimal cutting of trees judged to be hazardous. Gordon asked that the wood be left in the Forest, and Frank said that was Board policy passed years ago. Mark said sales of firewood could be considered. Frank said that strategy failed in the past. All volunteers must submit the multi-page volunteer form. We'll discuss details about certain trees at our next meeting. Mark moved and Bob seconded a motion to approve the Arbor Day of Service on 11/4 coordinated by James Brammer. The motion carried.

STATUS OF THREE FUNDED PROJECTS: Mark reported that work at the College St. and Indian Trail parking lots is nearly complete. He's considering round finials for the existing columns, and some signs and plaques need mounted. Major entrance signs won't be ready until the end of October. He'll consult with Bob about plantings at College Street.

The Zedaker Pavilion chimney is behind schedule. The pavilion also needs repair of rotted structural logs, plus some roof work and repair of the floor where the original cooking surface was removed. Logs and roof were not in the scope of this project. Elinor asked that the pavilion be treated with respect for its historical aesthetics. Mark said the project is \$7500 under budget.

Mark noted remarks by visitors. Some were pleased to see work being done in the Forest, some asked when Bluebell Trail would be improved, some wanted to donate money, some wanted to do volunteer work, some did not like the new chimney's modern appearance, some worry about attracting too many people to Poland Forest.

FOREST BOARD BUDGET: Bob said he needs a baseline to develop a budget, and noted that in the prosperous 1960s the village spent about \$50,000 per year (in today's dollars) in the Forest. Bob or Mark will inquire about the rate the Board will be charged for labor by Streets Department workers. Joe asked how much money the Foundation has left after allocating \$40,000 for parking lot and chimney work. Gordon estimated about \$100,000.

PROMOTION OF THE FOREST LEVY: Elinor reported that Village Council members do not plan to promote the Forest Levy they placed on the November ballot. Election turnout is expected to be good. Promotion might be done by fliers in kiosks, articles and ads in newspapers, by remarks at the October 14 Foundation fund raising event, and by the proposed

Forest website. Rob Dunham is swamped with work, so we don't know the website completion date. Frank wondered how traffic will be driven to the site; it will be interesting to see "hit" counts. Beth is extremely wary of involving students in any political issue.

FOUNDATION FUND RAISER: This wine tasting and social gathering is scheduled for October 14 at Wittenauer's Gallery. There will be a brief presentation on Forest issues and requests for donations. Joe asked if there was an estimate of expected income. Gordon said a wine tasting ten years ago raised about \$3000. Beth and Frank noted that they had out-of-town obligations that day and would not be present.

HAZARDOUS TREE PLAN: James is working on it, and Mark has talked to key members of Village Council.

YELLOW CREEK WATERSHED SIGNAGE: An educational sign regarding Yellow Creek Watershed was recently installed near Mauthe Bridge. Students were involved in the design and received a certificate of appreciation from the Board of Education. Mrs. Stacy pushes her portrayal of the water as polluted and hazardous, but nobody agrees.

OTHER BUSINESS: Joe asked why we still have no memorial bench in honor of Bob Zedaker.

Three cars parked at the College St. lot were recently broken into. Purses that were visible were stolen. This has also happened at Mill Creek Park and elsewhere. It's been sporadic enough at the Forest that police surveillance did no good. Frank proposed a sign, "Store Valuables Out of Sight."

Frank noted that the list of Forest Board members in the kiosk has long been out of date. Mark said he will remove it.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35.

Respectfully submitted, Frank Krygowski, secretary pro tem.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY OCTOBER 24, 2017 at 7:30 P.M.