

**MEETING OF THE POLAND FOREST BOARD**  
**Tuesday, October 24, 2017**  
**Poland Village Hall**

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

**GUESTS:** Gordon Longmuir, Randy Jones, Rob and Allison Dunham, Missy McCormick

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM.

**MINUTES:** After some discussion, the minutes of the September 2017 meeting were approved as submitted.

**STATUS OF FUNDED PROJECTS:** Mark reported that Bob donated several trees planted at the parking lots. The College Street lot needs a few more railroad tie bumpers. The pavilion chimney is nearly finished. A new sign will be glued to a rock by the Bremner pavilion. The new entrance signs will be installed within weeks. About \$12,500 has been spent, but the mason's bill has not been received, and some minor expenses remain.

**FOREST BOARD BUDGET:** Bob Elias has produced an estimated budget for next year, totaling \$12,000. Bob mentioned the 1967 budget was \$6700, equal to \$50,000 in today's dollars; but 1967 was a prosperous time for the area and village. Website expenses are not included since they are already covered for the first year. Elinor said we can't yet approve and submit this budget to Village Council until we know the fate of the new Forest levy on this November's ballot, and that the budget is still subject to change.

Frank asked if more recent Board minutes would yield budget data more modern than 1967. Elinor does not know where those minutes might be, and suggested Board members might consider checking their personal files and scanning any copies of older minutes.

There were questions about including a budget item for police patrol, since the Forest is legally part of the Village, thus already a police responsibility. After discussion, it was agreed to change the "Police Patrol" entry to "Contractor Services."

[Note: The first draft budget proposed by Bob is attached, with the one change agreed on.]

**PROMOTION OF THE FOREST LEVY:** Elinor and Mark are looking for a source of promotional signs. If passed, the levy will cost a typical resident very little. Elinor asks us to talk about the levy, since Village Council will not promote its passage. Frank and Beth thought that odd, since the levy was Council's idea, not the Forest Board's.

Rob Dunham asked for a letter from the Board to the community to include on the Forest website. Allison offered to work with social media promotion, and drop fliers in mail or paper boxes, as permitted. Missy McCormick suggested Facebook ads and WYSU radio promotion, if possible. There can also be signs at the entrances, perhaps signs telling what problems could be fixed if the levy passes.

Elinor then asked each person present to state what the Forest meant to them. There were many eloquent responses.

HAZARDOUS TREE PLAN: James reported there is nothing new. Elinor asked Frank to list and map the downed trees across trails and other problems in the Forest for later action. James thinks a "ground guy" can work on those during the Arbor Day of Service.

ARBOR DAY OF SERVICE: James has it planned for Saturday November 4, meeting at 7:30 AM and starting work at 8 AM. One team will work at the College Street lot, one near a pine tree struck by lightning, one at the huge hollow sycamore on Bluebell Trail, and one will do ground work clearing trees across trails. Beth is acquiring sweatshirts as "thank you" gifts for workers. Hopefully the Foundation will pay for these. Beth will also take care of food, with help from her students. Elinor will seek media publicity.

VOLUNTEER WORK IN THE FOREST: Missy asked about recent restrictions imposed on volunteer work, noting it seemed inconsistent with asking the public for a levy. Mark said volunteers are welcome, but must fill out forms before using tools such as loppers to clear branches from an existing trail. Frank asked about dragging a displaced boardwalk back into position. Elinor said "Just do it." Missy asked about the time required to acquire forms from Village Hall and get formal permission. Elinor said the Village secretary would notify Elinor of any requests, and she would come down immediately to process forms. Missy proposed having the form on the website, and permitting citizens to adopt a trail for continuous cleaning. There were many questions seeking to clarify the details and intent of the new volunteer rules.

FOUNDATION FUND RAISER: This occurred October 14 at Wittenauers. Elinor reported that it was a wonderful evening with a great feeling of community. Approximately \$10,000 was raised.

FOREST WEBSITE: Rob Dunham reported that the website can launch almost immediately. He has a list of a few items he needs from the Board (Forest rules, volunteer forms, etc.) plus a contract. Once he has the Board's responses the site will be launched. Donations have covered the costs that are due now. Rob has spent "triple digits" of hours doing research and developing the site.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00.

Respectfully submitted, Frank Krygowski, secretary pro tem.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY NOVEMBER 28, 2017 at 7:30 P.M.

# Proposed Budget

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## Poland Municipal Forest 2018

Contractor Services	2400.00
Trash Pickup	1200.00
Comfort Station Maintenance	700.00
Clearing Obstructions From Trails	1200.00
Culvert Cleaning	1000.00
Pavilion Maintenance	500.00
Mauthe Bridge Maintenance	1000.00
Signage Maintenance	500.00
Firelane & Road Maintenance	800.00
Material For Projects	1200.00
Reserve For Contingencies	<u>1500.00</u>
Total	12,000.00