



Northwest Illinois
Forestry Association
Woodland Owners
Sharing Ideas on
Forest Productivity

Northwest Illinois Forestry Association

Minutes of January 9, 2018

The meeting in the Stockton Public Library started at 7:00pm with a presentation by Marie McDonough on wood carving. Mrs. McDonough operates Marie's Wood Carving studio on Main Street in Stockton. She displayed some of her carvings and discussed how they were made as well as the specie of wood used in each. Then she used a power tool to carve a rose as the group of 30 people watched.

After the demonstration, President Tom Arnold called the business meeting to order at 7:50 pm.

Officers and Directors present for the business meeting were: Tom Arnold, Dick Pouzar, Ken Beach, Greg Hopton, Jim Breed, Alvin Wire, Lee Freedlund, Kevin Cahill, and Jerry Misek.

President Arnold called for any additions or corrections to the December 12th, 2017 meeting minutes.

Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Ralph Eads moved to approve the minutes. Jim Breed seconded the motion. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Pouzar reported on the current account balances of \$6112 in CD's and \$4,404 in Checking for a total of \$10,516 in the Treasury. He said that 24 members have already paid their renewal memberships out of the 120 members. This year people can pay their membership dues online, just go to the NIFA website and follow directions.

Treasurer Pouzar passed out the new NIFA Business cards and membership forms to the group.

Greg Hopton moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Ron Mikosinski seconded the motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

President Arnold called for any old business besides work on the agenda. Hearing none, he started discussion on the 2018 agenda.

February 13th meeting will have Paul Searl, a representative from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to discuss federal programs involving Forestry and possible funding opportunities. Ken Beach will bring the equipment for a power point presentation.

February 21-22nd will be a Forestry Conference at the Madison Wisconsin Forest Products Laboratory. Governor, Scott Walker, is sponsoring the Conference which is open to the public.

February 24th will be a chain saw safety program in Erie sponsored by the Whiteside County Soil and Water Conservation District.

March 10th will be the Tri State Forestry Conference at Sinsinawa Mound.

March 27th will be the NIFA Annual Dinner Meeting at the Church of God in Mt. Carroll. IDNR Biologist, Doug Dufford, will be the featured speaker covering the topics of large predators in the area, CWD updates, and his experiences of burning in woodlands. Caterers for the event are being sought.

April 14th will be a tour at the Tom Arnold farm featuring Timber harvesting and Oak regeneration.

May 5th will be a tour at the Ken Beach property featuring the results of different methods of tree plantings and methods of controlling Bush Honeysuckle.

June is open for a meeting and tour of invasive woodland plants and different control measures. Extension Specialist, Jay Solomon, will make the arrangements.

July 14th at 1:00 pm will be a tour of the Kevin Ward farm featuring a new tree planting of 20,000 trees and specialized equipment for handling trees and invasive shrubs. Consulting Forester, Kevin Oetken, will lead the tour.

July 25-26th is being reserved for Chain Saw Safety. Possibly there will be a beginner's session and an advanced session. President Arnold will contact Jay Hayek as the instructor. The sessions will be at the Jim Breed and/or Tom Arnold Tree Farms.

August 17th at 1:00pm will be a tour of the Kirkland Sawmill and related enterprises featuring a sawmill in operation.

September—Jay Solomon will contact Monica Pierce and Jackie DeBatista to set up a Forestry related program for the youth.

October will have a session on tree identification with Ken Beach and IDNR Forester, Paul Bane. Efforts will be made to involve youth groups.

November 13th will be a business meeting to work on the 2019 agenda.

December 11th will be a follow up business meeting and election of Officers and Directors.

NEW BUSINESS

Dick Pouzar talked about the history of NIFA noting that no other Illinois organization has held as many informational or educational programs on Forestry. He expressed how we learn from each other and are willing to help others. To be able to carry this on into future years we need to have a succession plan for leadership positions. He wanted members to think about their role in continuing this organization and their ability to provide leadership. Hopefully we can discuss this further at the next meeting.

President Arnold called for any more items for discussion. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Dick Pouzar moved to adjourn the meeting. Jim Breed seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek

NIFA Secretary