



## **Northwest Illinois Forestry Association**

Minutes of December 13, 2022

President Ken Beach called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Officers present were; Ken Beach, Alvin Wire, and Jerry Misek. Directors present were; Tom Arnold, Jay Solomon, Greg Hopton, and John Schroeder (by Zoom).

President Beach asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were no responses from the group, but he added that we should discuss membership renewals.

Since we had a quorum present, President Beach changed the agenda order and went to elections of Officers and Directors.

After asking if the present Officers were willing to continue, the response was yes for all present Officers. President Beach then asked for any additional nominations. Hearing none, he called for a motion.

Jay Solomon moved that we elect the current slate of Officers to serve for another year. Greg Hopton seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The floor was then open for election of Directors. The terms of Tom Arnold and Tom Sleeter were expiring and there is one open position to fill the vacancy of Kevin Cahill filling the Officer

position of Treasurer. Tom Arnold said he would serve another term and Tom Sleeter was not present but the group believed he would continue as a Director. Wes Hepker was present and was asked if he would accept the role as Director to fill Kevin Cahill's absent position. Wes answered that he would accept the nomination. President Beach called for any further nominations. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the nominations and elect the Directors. Alvin Wire moved to elect the slate of Directors. Jay Solomon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The slate of newly elected positions is:

President---Ken Beach

Vice President--- Alvin Wire

Treasurer---Kevin Cahill

Secretary---Jerry Misek

Media Manager---Dick Pouzar

Director---Tom Arnold

Director---Tom Sleeter

Director---Wes Hepker

President Beach called for any additions or corrections to the November 9th minutes. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Tom Arnold moved to approve the minutes. Jay Solomon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Cahill was not present and there was not a report given.

### **Membership Report**

Tom Sleeter was not at this meeting and no report was given.

### **Old Business**

President Beach started the discussion on the 2023 meeting and tour agenda.

January--- Business meeting with possible presentation of woodland trauma treatments with possible leader of Dr. Matt Smetana. The Doctor has not responded and it was proposed to move his presentation and the one with the chain saw representative to the summer or fall so it could be held outside.

Tom Arnold suggested having Tom Walsh, Past President of the Illinois Forestry Association ( IFA), as the January speaker. Mr. Walsh could discuss the role of the IFA and other possible Forestry organizations. The group agreed with the suggestion. Tom Arnold will make the contact with Mr. Walsh.

February--- John Schroeder stated that he preferred to do a session outside at the Abby, but still liked the idea of a session on solar energy. Much discussion followed. Wes Hepker agreed to

contact a speaker on the subject. Wes also suggested including ideas of what to grow under the solar pannels.

March--- Annual Dinner Meeting with Kevin Oetken as featured speaker discussing archeology and showing his findings near our area. (Jerry Misek) President Beach will make contacts about a meeting place and caterers for the meal which is planned for March 28th.

April---Woodland Burns with Jake Pulfer as the leader. This event will be held with short notice because very specific weather conditions need to be met for a proper burn to occur. (Ken Beach)

May--- The tree planting event with Luke Koett needs to be changed since he is unable to conduct the tour. Tom Arnold suggested having a session at the Galena Territory showing their forestry efforts. Mr. Arnold will make the contact and arrange for a tour.

June--- Sawmill Museum tour encouraging attendance of the youth. (Ken Beach)

July---Forest Products Lab tour emphasizing attendance of youth. (Jerry Misek)

August--- Wooded Wonderland tour with John Eisbach as the leader. (Tom Arnold)

September-- Tree Identification tour with Ken Beach as leader. (Ken Beach)

October --- Open with possible meeting or tour of the Abbey with John Schroeder as leader. ( Ken Beach and John Schroeder)

November--- Business meeting for planning the next year's activities.

December--- Business meeting and election of Officers and Directors along with solidifying the 2024 agenda.

Special Events---Chain saw safety classes. Tom Arnold will arrange the sessions and locations with Jay Hayek as the instructor. Classes will be scheduled between June and August.

## **New Business**

President Beach brought up the issue of membership renewals. He stated this has been done before as a notice on the email messages and mailed letters about upcoming events. He asked the group if this should be continued or should changes be made. The group consensus was it should continue as it has been done.

Jay Solomon informed the group that another Tri State Forestry Conference is being considered, but there is nothing definite yet.

President Beach asked if there was any more business to be discussed. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn. Tom Arnold moved to adjourn the meeting. Alvin Wire seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek

NIFA Secretary