

MINUTES OF THE FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD HELD  
THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2011 AT THE GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair Ginny Mudrock at 7:16 p.m.

PRESENT were Chair Mudrock and Board members Kastner (arrived late), Ossi, Elliott, Hoffmeister, Noll, Gregersen and Murray.

ALSO PRESENT was Mayor J Davis.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – (March, April & May) were approved as amended.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a) SIGNS – FP regulatory and entrance signs:  
Craze and Mudrock will submit report & paper sample regulatory and entrance sign mock up to council at the 7/11 council meeting.  
Board members are invited to join them.
- b) FP brochure will be posted to the city website after Council approval.  
Unsure if Celia has updated it.
- c) STILT GRASS AT NORTH WOODS TRACT: Damien explained that the timing of this effort is not crucial, since we have seeds already present from the last 10 years. He will enlist youth groups as volunteers to help during a weekday and notify the Board Members of the date and time.  
Since we are extracting an invasive plant, no permit is needed.
- d) WALK THROUGH BELLE POINT with Leslie Riddle, Donna Hoffmeister & Ginny Mudrock, June 4: Bradford Pear Trees encroach on the area, which acts as a buffer to the Kenilworth ramp to the Beltway and as an easement for utility lines. A dumping site was found on marsh land near the Belle Point business area. Ms. Riddle intends to contact the property managers to determine, if the dumping is within the boundary of FP. Mountain Laurel at Belle Point is dying out. Next walk with Ms. Riddle will be in September at Hamilton Woods.
- e) NORTH WOODS TRACT TRAIL EROSION – The trail in question off Northway has hard, compacted clay and trenches of water. The first measure should be to divert water coming from the road onto the trail. For the trail itself, Damien suggested 10 pieces of fallen dead wood across the trails and extending beyond the trail to force the water to the downhill side; he suggested using stakes to hold the logs in place and wood chips as a backflow. The Board reviewed the pertinent sections of the maintenance guidelines (pgs. 13, Part II, 14, Part V, 16, Parts X & XI, 17 Part V and 19, Part X & XI) and discovered an internal contradiction regarding wood chips. As a natural material, wood chips

should be allowed to stabilize the trails; the committee formulating the guidelines may not have noticed the inconsistency. Mayor Davis pointed out that Public Works is short-handed. Donna spoke of the similar work GHI volunteers did several years ago on the steep trail off of Plateau Place with logs at alternating angles across the trail and wood chips to stabilize the trail. It was decided to invite Matt Berres to speak to us about this work at our next meeting. Another issue concerns fallen trees across the Northway trails. Damien says to preserve the forest health we need to cut through fallen trees to keep people on the trail; otherwise they inadvertently widen the trails by going around the trees. Ginny countered that the original intent of the Guidelines was to leave the forest as it is.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- a) PESTICIDE USE AT THE GARDEN PLOTS:  
Mayor Davis pointed out that the FP has no standing on this issue. The Garden Plots must follow city guidelines on pesticide use and the garden plot users must refer to Leslie Riddle for further advice about these guidelines.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Joe suggested that we conclude each meeting with a round robin to elicit input from each member.
- b. Mayor Davis drew attention to the upcoming official ceremony on Thursday, June 23, 2011, 10:00-11:00 a.m., when the city joins the Baltimore Washington Partnership for Forest Stewardship (BWPFS).
- c. Damien recently attended the annual meeting in Philadelphia of the Society for Ecological Restoration, Mid-Atlantic Region (New York to W. Virginia), which focuses on bio-habitats and stream restoration.
- d. Donna spoke about the Prince George's County Woodland Owner Workshop on May 21, where Federal, State and County representatives addressed woodlands conservation techniques and conservation banking.
- e. Mayor Davis pointed to the CHEARS new Greenbelt Orchard Project to introduce edible, dwarf landscape trees that require no pesticides.

NEXT MEETING: scheduled for Thursday, July 21, 2011 at 7 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Donna Hoffmeister, Board Member

These minutes were approved by a vote of 6-0.

APPROVED