

FOBL Minutes 9/10/2019

Directors Present: Scott, Frank, Diane, Susan

Guests: Elizabeth and Doug, Emily Balough

1. Frank and Scott read the operating and conversation etiquette principles.
2. Minutes from meeting of August 26 approved
3. Board members signed thank you card for Paul Adelman who resigned 8/2019.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Scott

1. The City has removed one ash tree from Bass Lake Woods due to emerald ash borer. When and if more trees are removed this will change the amount of sunlight penetrating the woods.
2. Buckthorn (BT) is removed from kiosk to kayak launch. Scott is ordering a "shoreline wildflower mix" from Prairie Restoration. This mix includes grasses, sedges and forbes. Seeding to take place in the spring. This action was approved at a previous meeting.
3. Blue tubes on native shrubs are working, not sure when they will be coming off.
4. Scott received favorable update on targeted grant proposal for \$1500.00. This will be used to buy a large tool storage container and tools. Will have colorful cover, can be a meeting place for volunteers.
5. Scott showed current photo of water near outlet structure showing break up of cattails. This is due to higher water levels, up 18 inches. Water still "bouncing?"
6. Spruce trees continue to grow along fence line by storage facility. Drainage ditch is looking good with native grasses and wildflowers.

NEW BUSINESS: MOTIONS:

For future meetings Scott asked that motions be brought to the meeting in writing with copies for all board members

MOTION PASSED: Susan is organizing 4 volunteer buckthorn pulls during the months of September and October. Specifically September 15, 29, October 6 and October 20.

An amendment to the above motion to use social media - facebook and website - to promote volunteer activity failed.

MOTION: Joelyn made a motion by email as follows: **I Move that FOBL remove the current plastic fencing and wire supporting it as soon as possible.** Voting by email had also been requested and several Directors responded by casting a vote by email.

Scott addressed this issue by reading from 'Robert's Rules of Order' by Doris Zimmerman from the chapter on e-mail communication as follows: "Virtually every state has ruled that email meetings are not valid meetings due to the legal principle that boards are authorized to deliberate and act as a group, not as individual members. Robert's Rules of Order states that simultaneous communication is essential to the deliberative nature of meetings." Therefore voting by email was ruled 'out of order'.

Scott asked if any of the present Directors would like to make the motion "**to remove the current plastic fencing and wire supporting it as soon as possible.**" The motion was declined by the directors.

Scott made the following motion:

"I move that the existing deer fence be gathered and tied back and that the supporting wire be raised to 10 feet, or higher, at the truck point entry, depending on city equipment.
"

This motion passed after being amended to include the words "depending on city equipment".

Scott did say the wire had already been moved higher.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Frank wants to add more wood chips to the trail, fall and spring.
2. Susan requested info on widening of path by city. According to Scott they are just using a flail to mow down grasses at a wider margin on the GH trail, not actually adding more pavement. Susan would like to work on cutting more BT on the trail.
3. Idea of a sign was brought up for the woods that says Buckthorn Free Zone.
4. Elizabeth and Doug continue to weed and clear buckthorn near their property line and the Garden.
5. Susan reported that on Labor Day, September 3, wild geranium and water? Were planted in the garden.
6. Frank/Scott? Netting can be reused and repurposed to other sunny areas that open up due to removal of ash trees stricken by EAB.
7. **Emily Balough**, working on hours for becoming Master Water Steward, recruited by Diane attend meeting for the first time. She needs 10 hours to complete requirements.
 - Her comments - she can help with grant writing (lawyer background)
 - She is involved in many organizations and may be too busy to join FOBL Board
 - She and Scott may get together to talk about a project for her to help with rain runoff from the Randolph cul de sac. A more complete official rain garden could be created.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Sackrison, Board Member - sent out by email on 9/16/2019