

Minutes of the Iowa Woodland Owners association meeting of January 11, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by President Paul Millice. Our newest member of the Board, Ed Kocal, was introduced to everyone. Other Board Members attending were Dave Bartemes, Al Wagner, Al Rathje, Bob Jefferson, Kevin Karr, Tom Brady, and Ann Schneckloth. Also present were Shannon Ramsey, President of Trees Forever, and Paul Tauke, Head of the Iowa DNR. The Board thanked Bob for for arranging our meeting place at Friendship Village in Waterloo, and having coffee ready. He also arranged for us to eat lunch at Friendship Village.

Next on the agenda was the Iowa State Forest Nursery update from Paul Tauke. He has submitted a viability report in the Appropriations Bill, but has not heard anything back. The recommendations are to give flexibility to the current code so prices can be set and adjusted annually. A second recommendation is to allow small quantity orders, even though it may cost more per tree to process. The third recommendation is to allow resale of trees with roots attached. Because of the waning CRP Market, there is now more sales of landscape and potted stock. The State Nursery needs these changes to market Iowa seed sources. The best seeds with specific traits will help develop future stock for grafting, etc. If the Nursery can capture more sales, it will help solve financial problems. Under the present rules, it could take 2 years to change things. It is hoped that the Northeast Iowa Forest Action committee will start Legislative discussions. After the Governor's address, the funding to the DNR may be cut. Already there are 4 Forestry positions in Iowa that are unfilled. The DNR has submitted forms to get 5 grants. There is an active bill to increase hunting and fishing license fees to benefit wildlife. There is still a \$500,000 line item in the Governor's budget for wildlife and water quality. Paul said "don't underestimate your power", meaning Legislators don't like protestors standing around. On March 29 we need everyone working together for water quality. It starts with breakfast in the Senate Room. The IOWA Board is expected to be there. The 3/8 cent sales tax has been approved by Iowa voters, and the IWill idea needs to happen.

Dave moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Kevin seconded and the minutes were approved. Dave made a motion to accept the Financial Report. Al Rathje seconded. After discussion, it passed. Kevin said that some items need to be specified, such as charity and sponsors, or sales and memberships.

There should be 2 separate letters of Welcome for the IWOA. Cathy has written a comprehensive letter for the Master Woodland Managers, and there should be a different one for people who have Forest Reserve.

Steve Meyer has said that the Timber Talk Newsletter is taking a lot of his time to do the distribution. Are we getting what we are paying for? There is always a search for content. The unapproved minutes of the IWOA should not be published. The newsletter comes out April 1, August 1, and December 15 each year. It was suggested that Steve reply by email when he gets ready to publish someone's article.

The Job Description for the Membership Secretary is being reviewed and updated to include ListServe custodian. We will be best served if the Membership Secretary's responsibilities include removing deceased members names from the ListServe. Cathy Wilke is doing a good job. Paul will send her the new Job Description and check to see that she has read it. He will stay in contact more with Cathy than in the past. He will give her the welcome letters to use for our new membership.

Paul handed out a paper with a list of jobs that IWOA Members should consider taking on. On the list was Secretary, Newsletter, Public Relations, Legislative Liaison, ListServe, Field Days/Events,,

Timber talk timing was discussed, as of now the publication dates are April 1 Aug 1 and Dec 15th

It was suggested that we invite scholarship winners to write article for Timber Talk.

Jefferson asked if there is any way to track the scholarship recipients over the years?

Motion to adjourn at 0815

Paul Millice Acting Sec

First cut 3 Oct 2016