

## Minutes of the Iowa Woodland Owners Association January 8, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Millice at 10:00 at the Ronnenburg Restaurant in Amana, Iowa. Present were Board members Tim Meyer, Ed Kocal, Phil McCune, Ann Schneckloth, Tom Brady, Russ Glime, Al Wagner, and Paul Millice, and past Board member Kevin Karr. The first business was to have Paul stay on another year as President. Tim made a motion to change the ByLaws to allow another term for President, Ed seconded and the motion passed. Russ made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting, Tom seconded, and they were accepted. Al made a motion to accept the Finance Report, Phil seconded, and it was accepted. Ed made a motion to accept the Membership Report, Tim seconded, and it was accepted.

A discussion about Membership options brought out several opinions, and it was mentioned that non woodland owners should not be directing our mission. Different levels of contributing need to be considered along with the direction that we need to make a difference. Our revenues should serve to make ourselves known, such as field days, Iowa State Fair representation, County Fairs, and at the Statehouse. It is an advantage to corporations to have their names on our roster as contributing to community participation and reducing carbon footprints. Russ made a motion that we have a Friends of IWOA corporate donating and non voting level of \$250. After more discussion the motion was withdrawn. Ed made a motion to create levels of contribution: Forest Steward at \$250 or more, Friend of IWOA at \$100, Contributing at \$50, and the regular membership at \$20. Tim seconded, and the motion carried. Paul said that corporate sponsors will get recognition in the newsletters and prizes can be given to them. Tim said that we should proactively increase our membership with ideas for getting people to know us. Tim is willing to create a Think Tank of Volunteers Committee. Phil and Ann volunteered to meet with Tim in Grinnell in February for idea exchanges.

The ByLaws update will be written by Paul and Ann.

Kevin reported on the Interpretive Trails Project at the Iowa State Fair grounds. It is a walk-through exhibit with cell phone explanations of the IWOA and various trees. The Boy Scouts, Future Farmers, and Girl Scouts will be invited to try it. There were 10 installed in 2018. This year there will be more put up with maps, and members of the IWOA will be on hand to man it during the Iowa State Fair. IWOA members will get a free entrance ticket and a free parking space for helping. Al will work on getting people lined up now. If we have a booth in the Ag Building, it will be tremendous exposure.

Al reported on the IWOA Scholarship. The lady in charge has not gotten back to Al to answer his questions. Chuck Semler has been doing a great

job with scholarship presentations.

The Spring Field day will be May 30 near Palo, Iowa, at Larry Wiley's farm. January 20 is the planning date. The Fall Field Day will be in North Iowa near Farley. The date is not yet set. It was noted that the National Nut Growers Association will have their national meeting in Iowa this year.

Paul handed out a book called My Healthy Woods made by the Leopold Foundation. Larry Wiley will be handing them out at events that he attends with our IWOA information.

Paul has emailed Bob Jefferson that we will do something for his service to the IWOA> Al made a motion to give Bob a \$100 gift certificate, Russ seconded, and it was approved.

The Membership brochure will be sent to Larry Wiley. Russ will update it and send it to Paul. Then 500 will be printed. Ed reported that \$115 of merchandise, mainly shirts and hats, were sold last year. Ed discussed a couple of options to do with our logo. He said that name recognition is more important than money collected. Ed will take charge of new items and will have them made at the Cotton Gallery in Marion. They will be ready for the May field day. It was mentioned that the Tri-State Forestry date is in the newsletter.

Kevin said that renewed discussion on the Timber Reserve Program may not correctly state the position of the State Association of Assessors. The Association does not take a position on the Timber Reserve or other programs except to review them for fairness as applied to the entire group. The Association has 2 lobbyists to handle issues that may impact fair assessment of valuation. They do not collect tax. A member of the Association would be willing to meet with our group.

Phil said the Practical Farmers of Iowa will have a program on Silva Culture at the Sheman Center at Iowa State University in Ames January 17 to 19. It costs \$50 to \$60. Tim Wahl will be at the Iowa Arboretum on February 2 from 9 to 5. Tim gave handouts about positive thinking in 2019. Al made a motion to adjourn at 12:27 pm.

Ann Schneckloth, secretary