

Minutes of the Iowa Woodland Owners Association March 21, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Millice at 10:30 am in the cafeteria of the Iowa Statehouse. Present were Board members Phil McCune, Al Wagner, Russ Glime, Tim Meyer, Ann Schneckloth, and Paul Millice. Guests were Kevin Karr and Larry Wiley. Russ made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting, Phil seconded, and the minutes were accepted. Paul talked about the Finance report prepared by Treasurer Sherri Sisson, showing around \$15,000 in our account. Ann made a motion to accept the Finance report, Al seconded, and it was approved. The Membership report prepared by Membership Secretary Cathy Wilke showed the membership at 532. Russ made a motion to accept the Membership report, Tim seconded, and it was approved.

Tim gave a report on the Membership Committee activity. They had a meeting at the Ronnenberg Restaurant in Middle Amana and talked about advocacy, education, and practical ways to increase our membership. The committee was Paul, Russ, Tim, and Phil. The current IWOA brochure has been updated, and the levels of membership have been included. Ideas from the board members were discussed, and Kevin suggested small town newspaper editorials about timber issues and Forest Reserve threats. Tim said mentoring new tree farmers is a good service we could provide. Field days are a good way to contact people, and it was suggested we try to have Saturday ones because of working members. It was also suggested that members could be surveyed for program ideas at field days.

We need to replace 2 Board members. Ann will retype the By Laws change and send it to all the Board members. Paul said that Board members need to keep their green notebooks up to date and save them for the new Board member who replaces them.

Al Wagner has the new shirts and will hand them out at the spring field day.

The Iowa State Fair signposts are in place on the fairgrounds. A booth in the Ag building was discussed. It will be difficult to staff, and it will cost money to have one during the State Fair. Kevin said that the signposts have a notation in the Iowa State Fair newspaper. Al will call the State Fair Board to get more information about a booth.

The spring field day was discussed. It will be at Larry Wiley's property. Larry had fliers about the field day that he was handing out at the Tree Day at the Statehouse event from the IWOA booth in the Rotunda. Russ made a motion to spend \$200 for door prizes, Ann seconded, and the motion carried. It was suggested that the prizes be member eligible only as an incentive for people to join the IWOA.

The fall field day we will shoot for the Saturday the Hawkeyes do not have a game. The Forester will need to be contacted, and the property owner will work out the details.

The National Nut Growers meeting will be in Iowa City from July 28 to July 31. The 3 days will have a dinner and show, a technical day, and a field day. Phil will personally pay the \$150 for the IWOA to have a booth there and possibly get new members.

The Forest Advisory Council is a working group and has meetings. The next step for the IWOA on the Forest Reserve issue will be to keep all of our emails up to date so we can send rapid messages to our members. Russ will take on the project of updating the list of emails for members.

Paul said the newsletter target dates are falling behind. There was some discussion and the people who are sending articles are the slow ones. Steve Meyer will work on the next one in the first part of April, so it may be later than the 15th deadline for publication.

Paul said he has not heard from the Trees For Kids Program. Al made a motion to give them the usual \$220, Russ seconded, and it was approved.

Plaques will be given to Larry Wiley for the spring field day, and another one will be given to the fall field day host. Bob Jefferson will get a gift certificate for \$100 for his contributions to the IWOA. Ann will purchase the gift certificate in the Waterloo area.

Tim brought up the subject of the payment to our Lobbyist. Are we going to spend another \$1500 next year? What do other Coalition members pay? We decided to ask our Lobbyist to put an article in our newsletter, Timber Talk, and give us suggestions on our individual letters to our Legislators, and also tell us what he is doing for us.

Our next Board meeting will be after the spring field day on May 30, 2019, at Larry Wiley's property.

Ann Schneckloth, secretary