

Palmer Arboretum Minutes
August 21, 2019 6:00 pm

Present: Brower, Rocheleau, Krofina, Paquette, Hart, Adams Guest: Mitchell Eaffy

Minutes of July 10: Motion to accept: Brower & Hart - All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Balance in Regular Budget : \$4412.94 Friends Account : \$3015.30

Master Gardener Grant: \$348. Nancy was thanked and congratulated on applying for and receiving this grant. Jean will check with Chase Graphics Unlimited and New England Awards for prices on signs for the plants and trees. Expenses: Pathway and Bridge: \$ 4,910.85 Ben Young LLC, \$107.50 for Sansoucy Quarry, totaling \$5,018.45. Funding for project will come from Putnam Rotary Club: \$3,500 and Recreation Committee: \$1518.45. There was significant damage by the heavy equipment to the track and lawn around the hemlock tree. Ben has attempted to repair the deep ruts by bringing in soil, seeding and spreading straw. This may not be sufficient to restore the damaged areas. The committee discussed their concerns around the need for further repairs, treatment of the impacted soil and access for future machinery to the lower areas of the Arboretum.

The following points were made:

- a) The cost of the repairs and the extension of the path to the bridge will be covered by some of the funds from the Recreation Committee as this is all related to the bridge project. Photos should be taken of the area involved.
- b) Any future work projects at the Arboretum should involve a contract that includes a clause to ensure that the property is left in its original condition. It should be the responsibility of the contractor to repair any damage caused by equipment or workers.
- c) Mitchell will provide an estimate for the cost of rehabbing the lawn below the hemlock. This will include aeration, reseeding, clearing the brush and stumps to the lower wall and extending the lawn to this wall.
- d) Bill will take a picture of the stone slabs and Jean will send a note of thanks to Sansoucy Quarry.
- e) Any additional repair of track will occur after Chad has removed the trees by the pool.

The 2020 budget to be discussed at the next meeting. A fundraising letter will be sent out next May similar to the one in 2018.

New Business: Volunteer hours for August: 16 1/2

Scheduled Work days for adults: September 28, 9 – 12, October 19, 9 - 12

Linda Kaplan has said that Woodstock Garden Club members are interested in helping at the Arboretum. Andy will follow up with Linda, as well as contact the WA and Pomfret School to schedule student work days. Chores for students: Spread stone dust on extended path, spread mulch, wood chips and rake. Plant Siberian Iris in swamp area.

Bill will contact Hull Lumbar to negotiate for wood chips and mulch.

Mitchell will mow the upper bed of pachysandra and the poison ivy will be treated by the committee.

Nancy is now a full member of the Arboretum Committee. Chad will talk to Danielle about submitting her resignation. A WA student may be invited to join the Committee. Arboretum T-shirts will be ordered for Committee members and significant supporters of the Arboretum.

Motion to adjourn at 8:25 Hart & Krofina, All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Philippa Paquette