

Palmer Arboretum Minutes

ZOOM meeting December 14, 2022

Present: Philippa Paquette, Sara Dzeidzic, Jessie White, Rachael Budd

No citizen participation.

Jessie is resigning from the committee because of pressure of work. She will send copies of last year's budget and the accompanying letter to the rest of the committee. The budget is due next month. Sara volunteered to write the budget for next year and the letter but cannot be the treasurer because of her other commitments.

Rachael is resigning because she now lives out of Woodstock so is ineligible. She will remain involved with art and craft projects and student work at the Arboretum and can design fliers etc. This leaves a committee of 2 which is not pretty! Philippa will contact Jay to set up a meeting with him and Sara to discuss options. It is essential that we can hire kids next summer to work in the Arboretum and this needs to be organized and advertised early in the year. We also need a Treasurer, who might not have gardening skills or interests but would like to be a useful volunteer and we need more members on the committee.

Work groups: Students from The Woodstock Academy and Pomfret School have performed community service at the Arboretum and have been spreading woodchips that were donated by Stately Tree Service. There will probably be no more work sessions because of the snow and ice.

Julian has not yet responded to several requests for his report from the site visit he made and the results of the tests he ran on possibly diseased trees. Philippa will continue to try and reach him. We need information about his projected expenses for next year's budget.

Our membership in the LGV continues through 2023 and the committee decided to maintain the same level of membership and description of the Arboretum until it is time to renew.

As well as targetting young families and kids to visit the Arboretum, the committee discussed targetting older groups through libraries and book clubs. Elaine Turner is now the president of the Garden Club and would like someone to come and speak to her members about the needs and appeal of the Arboretum. This will happen in the spring.

Philippa will talk to Mary Weaver from the East Woodstock Library and Sara will talk to the WA librarian.

All future meetings will be on ZOOM at 3:15 on the second Wednesday of the month. Philippa will submit a schedule of next year's meetings to the Town Hall as requested. There will be no meeting in January.

Respectfully submitted by Philippa Paquette.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7lt8Y-gQ-iU&t=544s>