

15-September-2007

OH-ACF Business Meeting
Minutes

Present: Greg Miller, Carolyn Keiffer, Susan Ramser, Brian McCarthy, Ben Williams, Joe Reardon, Dave Simpson, Val DelMedico, Debra Gloss, Daniel Williams, Tim Williams, Bruce Williams, Bill Rueger, Joe Hietter, Tom Ayres, Jim Noe, Ray Gargano, Keith Gilland, Stan Sadon, Carlen Emmanuel, Tom Berger, Bob Long.

Greg Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 12:50. He brought in a number of samples and provided a chance for folks to look at American, Chinese, hybrids, Chinkapin, etc. for comparison. Greg thanked the Division of Forestry for their hospitality in providing a facility for our annual meeting.

Brian McCarthy, Secretary, read the minutes from the 2006 annual meeting. Carlen moved to accept the minutes as presented, Carolyn Keiffer seconded. Vote was taken, approved unanimously.

Susan Ramser, Treasurer, presented a review of the financial status of the organization. Ben Williams moved to reimburse Brian for funds used for lunch for TVWMA planting in spring 2007, Bruce seconded. Motion by Ben to accept Treasures report. Dave Simpson seconded. Approved unanimously by vote.

Nominating Committee volunteers: Carlen Emmanuel, Keith Gilland, Tom Berger. A nomination list should be established by 1-July for inclusion in the August newsletter. A ballot (paper or email) should be returned by the annual fall meeting.

Greg Miller provided a chapter office report. Michelle Scott, working at FFA camp, was unable to make this meeting. She is the primary office staff member assisting the OH-ACF. Several members voiced problems with newsletters arriving damaged. Suggestion was made that all subsequent newsletters be placed in an envelope or preferably moved to 11x17 paper folded and taped (to avoid staple and possibly increase paper quality). Suggestion was also made that members consider taking newsletter as PDF. In next newsletter, provide an option for people to opt out of the paper newsletter. We can then provide a PDF of the newsletter on the website followed by an email that newsletter has been posted to the website. Group expressed appreciation at Michelle's good effort with our newsletter.

Joe Reardon described proposal by Cleveland Metroparks (ca. 10,000 acres, with much chestnut). Rick Tyler, current acting Director of CM, would like to form an American Chestnut Task Force and focus on Ohio chestnut germplasm and planting. To what extent does OH-ACF want to be involved. Can this be opened up to members in the region to participate?

Ohio Native Chestnut Inventory reported on by Carlen Emmanuel. Carlen's list and Rich Cappell's list have not yet merged. Most of her large trees are coming from Licking County and northwards. Carlen suggested that we start logging in stump sprouts as well as mother trees. Sprouts in southern part of State could be easily released and grow to reproduction.

Greg Miller reported on collecting of American chestnut seed for planting at State Nursery. We came up with a plan to collect seed and have Marietta nursery grow seedlings to sell as a fund raiser and tool for growing chestnut. US Fish and Wildlife currently has a coop agreement in the works to support

some of this work. We need to get 10,000 nuts this fall for dissemination as seedlings to sell in spring of 2009. Dave Simpson suggested that Columbia Gas had a grant program that might support seed collection and/or seedlings. Carolyn Keiffer has agreed to secure the 13,000 seeds needed to begin this program!

Greg Miller provided a brief synopsis with a discussion of plantings, especially at Mohican State Forest. We discussed and agreed that would only be for pure Americans with primarily Ohio germplasm and try to avoid cross-contamination. We will begin to plant this area in the spring of 2008.

Greg wanted to come up with a general calender of annual activities. He proposed two newsletters, one in August and one February. February newsletter will announce when and where annual meeting will be and when and where spring planting will be. August newsletter will provide an agenda and ballot of new elected board of directors and executive members. Annual meeting will occur every year in September; a spring meeting is probably not needed and email should suffice. Provide acknowledgment of cooperators on website to encourage others to cooperate.

The meeting was adjourned at 15:05.

Minutes submitted and summarized by
Brian C. McCarthy, Chapter Secretary
17-September-2007