

## Lewiston-Auburn Community Forest Board

(Auburn Community Forest Working Group of SNRB)

**Minutes 4 18 24 Approved: 5 16 24**

**6:00 PM Auburn Sr. Center**

**Present:** Dave Griswold, Steve Murch, Jeremy Lavertu, Noel Skelton, Sam Boss, Zoe Lidstrom

**Excused:** Robin Payne

**Absent:** Rhyanna LaRose

**-Call to Order:** 6:05

**- 3 21 2024 minutes:** Approved

**-Public Participation:** None-

**1. Maine Arbor Week:** Third week in May 5 19-25

a. Dave and Steve will make sure Arbor Week proclamations needed for TCUSA are read at City Council meetings in April.

b. Notable Trees of L-A will be introduced. Zoe has set up Facebook and Instagram pages for this. Zoe provided account details and passwords etc. Sam and Zoe will contact city staff to post announcements of the program and solicit nominations during Arbor Week.

c. Dave has contacted the Maine chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation to try to bring their film on Chestnut restoration efforts to the Senior Center during Arbor week. ***Post meeting comment: It will be screened at the Senior Center in Auburn at 6:00 on May 23.***

d. Dave will let the group know about the date for the State event, which will be forthcoming from Jan Santerre. Several members may attend. Dave will inquire about seedings. ***Post meeting comment: State event at the Arboretum in Augusta will be at 1:00 on May 23.***

e. There was a discussion of a potential event at the nursery. Brian Doyle at Tambrands has offered volunteers for this sort of thing. More consideration is needed before anything is scheduled. Possible pruning, repairing deer cages, mulching.

**3. Project Canopy Grants:** Noel and Steve will develop a proposal to improve infrastructure at the nursery, including a new sign and possible deer fencing. Noel, Steve and others available will meet at the nursery at 10:00am on 4 24. EL is not ready for landscaping yet, so we will wait

until next year. Steve is considering development of a management plan for an arboretum and orchard at Franklin Pasture. Invasives control could be included. Grants are due on May 15.

**4. BMT control:** Steve is doing BMT control at schools. Noel is focusing on Lake Grove and other parks.

**New Business:**

- a. Dave is working to bring a Forestry BMPs workshop to Auburn.
- b. Maine Forest Service is presenting a webinar on 5/6 to provide an update on EAB and other invasives.
- c. Steve anticipates an EAB biocontrol release in Lewiston near where EAB was detected.
- d. Jeremy is attempting to germinate hophornbeam seeds.
- e. New Lewiston member Robin Payne was unable to join us tonight. ***Post meeting comment: Hunter Kissam is also joining us as a new member from Lewiston. Welcome to you both!***

**Next meeting:** May 16, 6:00 at the Auburn Senior Center, Pettengill Park.

**Adjourn:** 7:53