

Wisconsin Walnut Council Board Meeting – October 9, 2018 @ Dick Powell farm with meeting called to “order” @ 10:00am

Attendees: Manfred Mielke, Meg Cates, Jared Olsen, John Nielsen, Bill Carlson, Bruce L., Russ Moody, Jim Karpinski, Tristan (student from Highland working on forestry project with Dick), Dick Powell.

Tom Donahue resigned from the Board after several years service.

Review/revise agenda (and miscellaneous discussion)

Tom Hill, WI DNR Liaison, is in Rhinelander.

Extra walnut seed is available at Wilson Nursery in Boscobel. Contact is Roger Bohringer, WI DNR, Wilson Nursery, Boscobel @ 608-375-4123. Manfred will email members with information. There was a discussion about direct seeding and best practices.

Iowa is having their Walnut Council meeting October 20 - the main item is viewing a humongous walnut near McGregor, Iowa. Bill will email Iowa for information.

The National Board meeting starts 10-10-2018 in Springfield IL.

Manfred will send pictures of walnut sap sucker damage to Bill for the website. Bill will forward to Donna.

Budget review

Approximately \$6000 is cash on hand. Meg will look into a CD to earn some additional interest on \$2000 per discussion. The budget document is attached. The chapter could collect donations or charge for field days to generate additional monies.

Manfred will check with Liz regarding payment for services provided by Spring Green Timber Growers (already paid per Dick and Manfred); Timber Growers indicated they have not received payment.

Russ encouraged the Board to consider a project to promote forestry by spending a portion of the \$6000 balance - referred to committee. Coordination with another group such as Driftless Forest Network, Woods Camp facebook project by National Tree Farm, or the My WI Woods website is a possible avenue for utilizing some budget monies for forestry promotion.

Stan Pescar donated \$500 (~ 2016) reserved for TCD research. This donation should be monitored.

Review of year

Discussion regarding the Dan Bohlin Farm Field Day: big picture approach rather than just hands on, many comments about a great day, lots of information and topics; Logan and the sawmill were very popular.

WI Walnut Council should work with Logan to benefit from his skills and encourage more industry membership and involvement with the WI Walnut Council.

Invite Logan to the next meeting/field day.

Spring field day at Karpinsky was well received with excellent attendance. The meeting was jointly sponsored by Black Hawk WWOA and WWC.

Fall activities were the National Meeting Field Day at Dan Bohlin and promotion of the Baraboo Oak Symposium.

Plan Goetsch work day

On going - Manfred will coordinate.

Plan Spring Field Day -

Some possible topics, sites (Nielsen, Richardson, Gerry in Iowa County) were discussed.

Tom Hill, DNR Liaison (unable to attend the meeting) has some ideas, Bill will contact Tom to coordinate a field day for Spring 2019. Date for meeting will be May 18, 2019.

An excellent topic per Nielsen would be income tax changes. Meg will follow up with Linda Wong, a Washington DC based tax person; a webinar may be available. A fall field day may be possible.

Board feels that WWOA and WCC should have joint meetings whenever possible and share meeting information.

Board Member update/elections

There are some vacancies on the Board. Rudy Nigl passed away and Tom Donahue resigned. Another resignation is possible. Three members, Jared Olsen, John Nielsen, and Jim Karpinsky, have offered to accept/be appointed/elected to the Board. Manfred will coordinate an approval process and see if other chapter members are interested in serving on the Board.

Updated Board and Committee lists will be prepared for the 2019 year when the process is completed.

Committees

Committee assignments need to be updated. Tom Donahue (resigned from Board). Bill will contact Donna to get the updates on the web site.

Russ Moody wrote a letter to Fred Souba encouraging WI DNR to fill open marketing positions. He met with the WI DNR Marketing Coordinator, Sabina D, at Souba's suggestion. Per Nielsen the program has switched from geographic to product based assignments and the Dodgeville based position has been eliminated.

There was a discussion about the lack of pulpwood markets in SW WI.

See the budget discussion - a committee could be assigned to develop a way for the Chapter to encourage fine hard wood and walnut management. Note: this should be an agenda item at the next meeting with a decision regarding the project and spending, and a committee assignment.