

Northwest Illinois Forestry Association

Minutes of January 10, 2012

President Tom Arnold called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the basement meeting room of the Stockton Public Library.

President Arnold stated that he had not attached the December minutes to the January meeting announcement. Therefore, he asked Jerry Misek to send a copy of the minutes around to members so they could see if any corrections need to be made. After everyone has seen the minutes, he will call for corrections or approval later in the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Keith Arnold reported that NIFA has a total of \$8,231.50 in all accounts. He also reported that he had found the tax number for NIFA and has sent it to the bank that requested it.

OLD BUSINESS

President Arnold called for any old business.

Ralph Eads reported that he has reserved the Carroll County Farm Bureau meeting room for the NIFA Annual Dinner meeting on March 27th. The cost for the room will be \$50.00. Ralph said that he also had contacted the 4-H group about serving a meal similar to last year and they agreed to serve the meal. Ralph stated that he may not be in town the day of the meeting and if he is gone, someone else will need to set up the meeting room.

NEW BUSINESS

President Arnold said that we need to work on the 2012 meeting and tour agenda.

Greg Hopton has arranged to have the February meeting to be at Knotty Ideas Woodworking in Scales Mound on February 18th at 1:00pm.

March 10th is the date for the Tri-State Forestry Conference at Sinsinawa Mound.

March 27th will be the NIFA Annual Dinner Meeting at the Mt. Carroll Farm Bureau Hall at 7:00pm with Frederick Miller being the featured speaker.

In late April or early May, a wildflower tour will be held at the Savanna Palisades Park. Dick Pouzar will confirm a date with Bill Handel.

May 19th is the date for a 1:00 pm tour at the Nasuh Katib farm west of Scales Mound. The tour will feature pruning and thinning of a 20 year old CRP tree planting.

On June 16th Dick Pouzar will present a workshop titled "Ties to the Land". This is a 4 hour workshop that addresses how to discuss passing land on to the next owners. A fee of \$25.00 will cover the workbook needed for the workshop. Contact Dick Pouzar to enroll in the workshop.

In July there will be 2 activities. One will be to tour Siemens Woodworks in East Dubuque and the other will be a session on fruit tree pruning arranged by Jay Solomon.

The dates will be set later.

If there is enough interest, an advanced chain saw safety workshop will be scheduled in August.

September 29th will be a tour of the Misek Tree Farm near Elizabeth arranged by the Illinois Tree Farm Committee. This will be an all day tour with lunch included and advance registration needed.

On October 13th Tom Arnold will host a tour of timber harvesting and forest regeneration on his Tree Farm north of Elizabeth.

November 13th will be a NIFA business meeting focused on planning the 2013 meeting and tour agenda.

December 11th will be a NIFA business meeting to work on the 2013 agenda and to conduct election of officers and directors.

President Arnold called for any more new business.

Soil Scientist, Frank Heisner, asked for NIFA's cooperation in planning a 6 state Soils and Forestry tour in northern Illinois. He requested an NIFA member to be on a planning committee for the event. Eight to ten sites would be visited in the field with soil pits dug and relating to forestry. The tour would be held in October 2013 and NIFA members would be able to attend stops that would interest them. The base of operations is planned to be at Chestnut Mountain Resort near Galena.

President Arnold asked Jerry Misek and Ralph Eads to assist Frank with tour arrangements.

President Arnold then called for any further business. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn. Dick Pouzar moved to adjourn the meeting. Greg Hopton seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Tom Sleeter, financial advisor for Total Clarity Wealth Management Inc. Oak Brook, Illinois, was the featured speaker. In his presentation, Mr. Sleeter compared five different business organizations and discussed the pros and cons of each including tax considerations of each type. He also talked about living trusts and how they can be used to pass on land to future generations without going through probate.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek

NIFA Secretary