

## **FWT Board Meeting April 11, 2022**

**Attendees:** Denise Bilsback, John Boettcher, Ron Happ, Hal Harris, Craig Hurlbut, Dennis Kuhn, Mark Nicholson (guest), Norma Platt, Bill Polito, Steve Snyder, Anna Taylor, Eric Turburg, Sarah White

### **A. Administrative Tasks**

1. Approve/Change Agenda: [OK](#)
2. Approve Minutes from March 2022 Meeting: [Approved](#)
3. Membership Status- Denise Bilsback: [Detailed report distributed to Board via email](#)
  - a [237 members, up one](#)
  - b [2 donors](#)
  - c [Volunteer work hours: 41 hours \(lots of tree removal\)](#)
4. Review of Treasurer Report- Bill Polito: [Detailed report distributed to Board via email](#)
  - a [Lower collections this month, but partly from vacation of treasurer. Will true up in April.](#)
  - b [First ReTree expense \(\\$208\) incurred this month](#)
5. Social Media – Erin Rene
  - a [Consistent posts on a schedule for FB](#)
  - b [FB followers – 904, up 2 in March](#)
  - c [Instagram migration scheduled for this month](#)
  - d [Erin will be away over the summer. \*\*ACTION ITEM:\*\* Send photos of hikes to Anna for FB](#)
6. Website Inquiry Summary – Norma Platt
  - a [Offer of wood chips that was declined.](#)
  - b [Report of a tree down on 104 Bike Path, but not FWT property.](#)
  - c [Scout looking for a project opportunity that was forwarded to Eric.](#)
  - d [State Parks, Rec and Historic Preservation contact looking for ReTree contact.](#)
  - e [Volunteer for ReTree.](#)
7. Communications Update- John Boettcher
  - a [NL complete \(thanks to all contributors\) and distributed via email and to Parks and Rec. Also posted on the FWT Website.](#)
  - b [Peter Elder from Webster Village proposed a Hojack trail hike. He’s also working with McAllister Signs to create signage for Hojack kiosk.](#)
  - c [Five ReTree articles published in Webster Herald. Also shared in Missy Rosenberry’s blog.](#)
  - d [Plan to put ReTree articles in Webster Town Times NL that will go to all Webster residents.](#)
8. Habitat Committee Update- Norma Platt:
  - a [Call for volunteers for upcoming season sent to membership.](#)
  - b [Friday workdays to start mid-May.](#)
  - c [Big Woods Hemlock woolly adelgid treatment will start soon in Big Woods. Genesee Valley Land Trust working on memo of understanding with town, to be followed by work.](#)

- i Question: What about treatment in FMC? Big Woods treatment is a partnership with GVLT, which is providing funding. Any future work will need a plan and funding source. FMC hemlock stands are more remote, and wooly adelgid is not yet documented there.
- 9. Conflict of Interest Form, Contact list, New Appointment - Anna
  - a Conflict of interest forms are complete. **ACTION ITEM:** Anna to scan forms and put on DropBox.
  - b Contact List to be reviewed.
  - c New Appointment of legal counsel still in process.

## B. Main Topics

1. **Trails Planning & Maintenance:** - Maintenance: Planning - Craig, Hal
  - a Mowing – We have a Mower!!
    - i 48-inch used mower for \$4k. Inspected by town and declared in great shape.
    - ii. Trailer still needed, and once acquired will need to be registered.  
**ACTION ITEM:** Steve, Ron, Craig, and Eric to put together a volunteer calendar/plan by May meeting.
  - b Volunteers for Workdays: Strategy. Plan to use all methods of getting volunteers: Email to membership, Meetup, and FB site promotion.
  - c Trail Workday #1: Hojack Trail Clean up, April 16. Linda Sipel coordinating the waivers. Scout troop might volunteer. **ACTION ITEM:** Craig to make sure Linda has current version of the waiver.
  - d Trail Workday #2: ReTree Nursery, April 16, 8:30am, meet at maintenance yard Barn off 250, north of Chiyoda. Need roughly 12 people.
  - e Trail Workday for FMC and State Road trail building: May 7 and 21.
  - f Michael Johnson Trail: Volunteers/Workday(s)/Dedication scheduled for June. Specific date TBD. Norma will be Trail Steward.
  - g Trail Issue Communication - Bud: Proposal to have signs at trailheads asking public to report issues to through the FWT contact site, and then Norma would forward the report to the appropriate Trail Steward. Test signage to be used at FMC. **ACTION ITEM:** John to create draft of sign and distribute to Board.
  - h Reminder that all participants for workdays need to sign waivers.
2. **Re-Tree Project:** Norma/Sarah
  - a Grants
    - i. Genesee Finger Lakes Chapter of the AWMA – Earth Day Grant: Not successful.
    - ii. Webster Rotary grant proposal submitted for Hojack benches.
    - iii. Florence M Muller grant application in process with prerequisites complete.
  - b -Nursery construction planned for Saturday, May 16 at 8:30. Tasks: Set fence posts, install fencing, build gate, and assemble boxes.
  - c 100 seedlings to be delivered and planted May 23.
  - d Signage added to WRNP kiosk about project, and additional signage about invasives to be added.

### 3. **Promote:** Anna T.

- Group Hikes:
  - Group Hike April 23, 10:30 am, Hojack Trail. Led by Anna. Meet at North Ponds Park.
  - FMCP Car Hike: April 30, 10 am start.
    - i. Led by Dennis. Need someone to help with sweep of hike. **ACTION ITEM:** Send Dennis interest of sweep.
    - ii. Meet in parking lot and tour the 5 stops with cars, following handout.
    - iii. Flyer created, to be reviewed. **ACTION ITEM:** Anna to forward flyer to Board for review.
- Events:
  - Community Arts Day: April 9 Feedback – Dennis: Volunteers staffed table with lots of attendees. Handed out Passport booklets, but noted that they are outdated and Wegmans is no longer giving out prizes. Denise is working with Wegmans contact for Passport and will report back.
  - Scout troop expressed interest in volunteering. Dennis to provide information to Norma for ReTree.
  - Community Family Night at Miracle Field May 20, 6-8 pm - Friends table to be staffed. **ACTION ITEM:** Send Anna interest in staffing table.
- Website - Donate Button: Suggestion to make it easier to donate/join. **ACTION ITEM:** Anna to work with Steve to add a donate button and to make it a single transaction to join and donate.
- Partnerships - Webster Rotary - Norma/Anna: Discussed above.
- T-Shirt Distribution today.

### 4. **Open Space:**

- Open Space Status- Hal: 28 properties still to contact. Hal working with Town Supervisor to contact property owners.
- FWT is supporting DEC Community Forest grant to purchase Gary Wood property adjacent to WRNP on Herman Road, which would provide another trailhead for WRNP. Ten percent of purchase price must be covered by the town, and Mary Donbovy has offered to cover that. Ben W coordinating the legal side pro bono.

### 5. **Open Discussion**

- Lyme Disease: Should we post signage alerting users to take precautions. **ACTION ITEM:** Anna to email Glenn M to see if the town has information about Lyme that could be posted.

Adjourn!