

The American Chestnut Foundation – Ohio Chapter
September 10, 2016 4-H Camp Palmer
Meeting started at 10:00 am
Board Meeting

Board Members present

Carolyn Keiffer, Ryan Homsher, Joe Reardon, Bruce Willis, Walt Lange, Greg Miller, Stephen Rist
Tom Mills, Greg Chopko

Review of action items from 2015

Stephen will check into the bucket truck situation. – truck sold as scrap metal, MOU done

Stephen will look for White pine planting cuttings for a large-ish scale planting. – planted 3000 seedlings with shelters (Mohican State Park 400, Scioto Trail State Forest 325, Waterloo Wildlife Area 275, Hocking State Forest 2000)

Keith will create a Facebook page- completed and pictures posted

Seed collection from Mohican. Joe will arrange through Chad in conjunction with Greg.-collected 140 seedlings, mixed seed, don't know specific parent trees, Greg growing the seed

Keith will edit the proposal to move it forward and send changes around- grant completed- first round ended April 1, 2016- 5 applied, 4 funded for \$2700

Joe Reardon approved minutes

New Business/Topics discussed

Carolyn Keiffer planted 100 American chestnut seed (from West Virginia) at Miami University greenhouse, use these as root stock

Plan to collect scion wood from known American chestnut trees from around the state and graft this to the rootstock

Need to gather scion wood and need help finding sources to sample

Carolyn working with Jim McKenna USFS/Purdue to have a grafting workshop in February/March 2017

Keith Gillard took a job out of the state and stepped down from state chapter secretary

Carolyn will write him a thank you letter for his many years of service

Stephen Rist is the new secretary

Greg Miller talked about chestnut planting at FFA Camp Muskingum. It needs a person/member to maintain it. Rifle range planting has hundreds of trees surviving with fencing protecting it. Barn planting nearly failed. Carolyn suggested hiring an intern during the summer to live at FFA Camp Muskingum and maintain planting. There is a grant from Duke University to fund chestnut work. Carolyn will ask for funding in spring 2017

Proposed to look into funding an intern at FFA Camp Muskingum to maintain chestnut planting

Carolyn Keiffer 1st Ryan Homsher 2nd motion, vote taken motion passed unanimously

Working to increase membership involvement in the chapter

Board members do not appear to have term limits according to the by-laws

Adding planting coordinators to the 5 regions of Ohio

Duties will be to coordinate plantings in area and maintain these plantings in the coming years

NE Ohio – Greg Chopko

NW Ohio – Walt Lange

Central Ohio – Ryan Homsher

SE Ohio – Tom Mills and Stephen Rist

SW Ohio – Carolyn Keiffer

Treasurers report by Ryan Homser

Current balance \$45,966.26

Membership dues bring in about \$2,500 per year

Expenses for past year was \$8,139.80

Designated donations

2013 \$4,065.00

2014 \$6,212.50

2015 \$3,977.68

2016 \$2,880.00

Treasurers report approved by the board

Grant Applications

Grant Committee Stephen Rist, Greg Miller, Ryan Homsher

First round ended April 1, 2016

5 applicants, 3 fully funded, 1 partially funded, 1 not funded. Total amount spent on grants was \$2700

Plan to do at least 1 grant cycle per year

Can spend an estimated \$2000-3000 per year to keep current balance

Modifications added for 2nd grant go around, plan to send out in late 2016

List of Board Members so applicants have a contact person to discuss project

Discussion of starting up Ohio Chapter newsletter, too costly and time consuming to do at this point

If there are any articles or important topics from Ohio, they can be submitted and printed in national publication

National TACF will be housing the websites for the state chapters

Ohio's website will be updated in the coming months

New information to include on the website will include Board Members contact information and copies of funded grants as examples

Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library requesting 2 seedlings to be planted with the restoration of the building.

Bruce Willis 1st, Ryan Homsher 2nd motion, vote taken motion passed unanimously

Carolyn looking into locating 2 larger Restoration 1.0 seedling that can be transplanted

Annual Chapter meeting date for 2017 was discussed

Brian McCarthy can't do 2nd weekend of September

Greg Miller can't go any later than 2nd weekend of September due to chestnut picking season

Discussion to move meeting to mid-August or November (after National TACF meeting)

Date will be decided with further discussion by email

Location for 2017 annual meeting

Early discussion is to have it in the southern part of state, since past 2 years have been in the north

Member suggested SW Ohio

Carolyn Keiffer offered Miami University

SE Ohio is a suggested possibility to look at one of the recent plantings: Wayne National Forest or ODNR

Location will be decided with further discussion by email

Action Items

Carolyn graft 100 chestnuts at Miami University

Carolyn and Greg Miller hire intern at Camp Muskingum to maintain chestnut planting

2nd listing of Chestnut grant

2 Restoration 1.0 seedlings be planted at Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library

Stephen Rist and Bruce Willis work on updating membership contact information. Those with bad or no emails be sent a letter asking to update

Stephen Rist lead plantings on ODNR lands with additional chestnuts from national

Motion to adjourn meeting

Joe Reardon 1st and Ryan Homsher 2nd

Meeting adjourned at 11:55am