

## Palmer Arboretum Committee

### Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2024 @ 3 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 3:07 p.m.

Attendance: Philippa Paquette, John Davis, Denise Esslinger. Sara couldn't attend due to an emergency appointment. No guests present.

Minutes of November 21, 2023 accepted.

Treasurer's Report: John provided the report electronically, which is as follows as of February 20, 2024

	Budget Account	Friends Account
Opening Balance	3,000.00	9,068.48
Donation		150.00
Payroll	1,083.00	
Better View Landscaping	750.75	
Bartlett Tree	899.00	329.88
Expenses	45.00	
The Last Green Valley Renewal		360.00
Balance at 2/20/2024	222.25	8,528.60

Meeting Date and Time: Discussed moving meeting to second Wednesday of the month as two people who have expressed interest in joining the Committee can only meet on Wednesdays due to work schedule. Philippa will check with Sara to see if this change can work for her.

Philippa shared she had inquired about the possibility of the town plowing the parking lot. Historical Society currently pays for this. Town's answer was no.

Work Projects: Philippa reported that there is a small tree and a dead tree that need to be removed. Also have pile of wood chips that need to be spread.

Philippa also received letter from Julian inquiring about plans for major tree work outlined in report he had prepared for the Committee. Julian has offered to come again and assess the trees. Will plan to do this in the spring and ask for his assessment if any trees are deemed a safety concern.

No communication from Pomfret School. Philippa is hoping Sara will be able to get Woodstock Academy students for work days.

Upcoming Walks: May 8th, 16th, 25th with Last Green Valley at 10 a.m. Philippa will lead.

Still waiting to hear from lawn mower regarding mowing for this year. Philippa typically receives a letter.

Other Business: A discussion ensued on how we can engage more people at the Arboretum. Denise had reached out to area arboretums to inquire about what they do. Some ideas include: photographer's walk, tree walk, Arbor Day (April 26<sup>th</sup>) offering possibly with local elementary school, partnering with Historical Society and/or local nature center, tree illumination. John shared some of what the Federated Garden Club does. Philippa shared the idea of a Kids Camps for an hour or two on Saturday morning or a series of Saturday mornings. Philippa will reach out to Jay to discuss the possibility of partnering with the Woodstock Historical Society on an event.

John mentioned the split rail fence needs repair and will review what needs to be done. Also discussed needing to talk with Jesse about fence by her yard that is in disrepair.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for March 19th at 3:00 p.m. Date may be changed to second Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. to accommodate new members.

<https://youtu.be/G5xrvUfVnaw>

Respectively submitted,

Denise Esslinger