



Meeting Minutes

Sunday, Sept. 27th, 2026

Location: Dunn Brothers (first floor meeting room)

Attendance: Bob Tacke, Margie & Jim Strom, Kerri Seemann, Steve Erler

The meeting began at 1:07 pm.

Old & New Business

Seed Order: Steve requested \$850 from the city council at a work session earlier in September. It was approved. Kerri placed two seed orders: \$509.32 from Prairie Moon (which she paid for) and \$370.60 from MNL (for which we have an invoice). Some of the seed was cheaper than previous quotes, but we underestimated the cost of tax (PrairieMoon) and shipping (MNL), so it came out a little over-budget.

Action Item: Kerri will contact Joshua (Parks Manager) to ask how we should handle the invoice and reimbursement.

Treasurer's Report: Steve gave an update on our current bank balance and how much is being held for us through the Arden Hills Foundation.

Great River Greening: Becca said that she'll be hearing about one of the grants this coming Wednesday. Kerri brought a couple copies of the GRG draft Management Plan so the Stroms could read it and share with other Chatham residents who will be directly impacted by the coming restoration work. That led into a discussion of...

Fall Intentions: Steve is going to continue brush cutting buckthorn regrowth on the east side of the wetland. Bob will continue cutting the larger buckthorn near the stream. Locations of brush piles was discussed. Kerri just worked on clearing & planting in the low area near Mark's house; she expects to only need two more days to pull the small buckthorn. Jim asked where he should focus; we suggested prioritizing the berry-producing buckthorn.

We also discussed areas that could use seeding. Kerri would like to have teams of volunteers (leaf blowing, seeding, and raking) to improve efficiency. Steve said he's available Wednesday mornings.

Action Items:

- Margie will talk to neighbors about removing the Amur maple in their corner of the park and share information about the Great River Greening plans.
- Kerri will create information about flowers/shrubs that could be seeded/planted there if the Amur maple is removed for Margie to share..
- Kerri will also contact Oak Forest Academy to see if they would like to help with seeding.

NPLD Event: Great River Greening hosted a volunteer planting event at Hazelnut Park yesterday. Kerri & Kristine ran a booth at the community event afterwards to spread awareness of AHG and try to connect with more community members. Two people requested to be added to the volunteer list. One is an employee at Boston Scientific who said he'll see if any of his team members would be interested in working at Cummings Park. Kristine also suggested (again) creating videos about AHG to share on social media and getting some of the bee information from the booth onto the AHG website.

Video ideas included:

- Buckthorn management
- A brief overview of AHG and what we do
- Bees in Arden Hills

Bob suggested editing using iMovie. We will discuss this further before the next meeting and, hopefully, get some video clips that we can use.

Action Items: Steve will update the volunteer email list.

The meeting ended at 2:37 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Sunday, Nov. 29th, 1pm