



# Meeting Minutes

Sunday, June 26, 2024

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**Location:** Dunn Brothers, upstairs meeting room

**Attendance:** Robert Tacke, Steve Eler (*contact person*), Kerri Seemann (*president*), Nancy Jacobson

The meeting started shortly after 3pm.

Steve provided an update on the goat browsing at Chatham and the volunteer rotation to check on them, twice daily. They are currently in a very large pen; it is often difficult to see the goats. Joel plans on removing the goats on July 3.

There was a long discussion about seeding at Chatham. Public Works requested that Bob & Steve seed the areas in Chatham where the goats have been. 100# of grass seed had been delivered to Steve's house, as well as spreaders. However, the seed delivered was a non-native MNDOT Ditch Mix. Much of the meeting was spent discussing:

- the pros and cons of the ditch mix (20% of which would likely cause long-term problems),
- how to respond to Public Works in a way that wouldn't jeopardize our working relationship with them,
- and how seeding might affect future management activities (such as brush cutting)

It was decided that Kerri would research the standard, native MNDOT seed mixes and make a recommendation so that Steve could request that Public Works exchange the Ditch Mix for something more appropriate for the site and goals.

There was a brief discussion of Jeff Frid's partial walk-through at Chatham with Bob & Steve, in which they discussed the goats and buckthorn removal pick-up sites. Kerri explained that it was meant to be a tour of the trails on the other side of Chatham Ave, to see if residents such as Jim Marrs could leave piles of buckthorn along the trail for the city to pick up. That will need clarification with Jeff Frid.

Steve said that some city council members had concerns about our group and we discussed options for introducing our group to them. A city council work session is preferred. It was suggested that Steve would make a good spokesperson for the group and he said that he is comfortable speaking in front of the council and answering their questions.

Kerri briefly mentioned that she has received permission from Matthew Johnson to have the pollinator booth at the Penny Carnival at Perry Park on July 19th. She is

considering giving away seedlings to the kids, and wondered if we could find any local Wild Ones members who would be interested in helping. Nancy knows of a couple Wild Ones members that we can try contacting.

Kerri also mentioned that she had been contacted by the Karth Lake Improvement District. They would like her to provide information about native plants for lake shore plantings at the ice cream social at Cummings Park sometime in August. Since the Karth Lake group is also interested in park stewardship, Kerri thought that it would be good for us to collaborate.

The meeting wrapped up around 4:30pm.