



# Meeting Minutes

Sunday, Aug. 4, 2024

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

**Attendance:** Robert Tacke, Steve Eler (*contact person*), Jim Marrs, Kurt Weber, Liz Harper, Kerri Seemann (*president*),

The meeting started around 2:40pm.

Steve provided an update on the work at Chatham, including a summary of the recent goat visit, the seeding issue, and the work plan that was requested by Councilmember Rousseau. Kerri requested that the planting of forbs this fall (possibly as part of National Public Lands Day, Sept. 28) be added to the work plan and Bob requested that winter cutting of buckthorn also be included. There was also a discussion of tracking volunteer hours, with an estimate of somewhere between 30-60 hours for goat management this June.

An update from the treasurer (by text) stated that she has everything prepared to open the bank account.

Jim Marrs mentioned that his neighbors, John & Peggy, would be interested in paying to have goats come out to manage the area where they've cleared buckthorn.

Kerri provided a brief summary of this summer's education/outreach events.

- The Penny Carnival brought in \$14.25 in funds, but that was much lower than printing costs. But between the Penny Carnival and the Chatham flyers, we're getting more awareness of the group, at least based on new visits to the facebook page. Steve thinks we need to get into the Arden Hills News & Notes to get more group recognition. That would require official recognition by the city.
- The family planting workshops were canceled because only one person signed up.
- The Karth Lake event is coming up on Aug. 12, where Kerri was asked to provide information about shoreline restoration, raingarden plantings, and erosion control.
- Kerri was also asked to have the pollinator activity/plant giveaway at the Aug. 15 city/Rotary event.

Kerri provided a brief summary of the Eagle Scout planting project at Sampson Park. The scouts are often looking for opportunities for conservation hours and they have been notified that Arden Hills Greening is looking for volunteers.

Kerri brought up the issue of the Adopt-A-Spot program (should AHG present it to the PTRC or should it be developed by the PTRC?) and there was a long discussion of the purpose of the program, how it could help the city deal with encroachment issues, how AHG and the city can potentially benefit each other, etc. It was decided that Kerri should try to get AHG on the PTRC agenda so that we can open dialogue, work on getting recognized by the city, and try to get additional support for buckthorn removal. Specific issues include:

- extending the cutting season later into the fall/winter,
- getting permission for brush piles or winter burning in areas the chipper can't access,
- and having the city budget include grass seed for areas that are cleared

The meeting wrapped up around 4pm.