

Lewiston-Auburn Community Forest Board

(Auburn Community Forest Working Group of SNRB)

Natural Products and Agriculture Working Group

Joint Meeting

Minutes 8 20 26 Approved: 9 17 26 (LACFB) 9 24 26 (NP&AgWG)

6:00 PM Auburn Hall Common Room

Present: LACFB: Jeremy Lavertu, Dave Griswold, Steve Murch, Noel Skelton, Sean O'Connell, Wanda Sprague, Bram Bergeron-Smith

NP&AgWG: Chloe Meyers, David Bell, Chris Carson, Pam Rousseau, Kathy Shaw, Grant Roberts, Dave Griswold

Excused: LACFB: Sam Boss, Zoe Lidstrom, Ben Thorne, Andrew Latham

Absent:

Guests:

Call to Order: 6:09

- 5 14 26 LACFB Minutes: Approved

-Public Participation: None

1. Farm and Forest Day Planning:

a. Date 10 17, Chloe is lining up participants. Participants can define hosting hours for their location.

b. LACFB potential locations: Nursery, Chestnut grove, public woodlot (Pettengill, Mt Apatite?), ReTreeUS orchard

c. Ideas: pop up vendors, raffle, map with locations, scavenger hunt, wrap up at Valley View Farm high tunnel

d. Need to finalize details by Sept 7 to develop flyers and publicity

2. Notable Trees/ Arboretum in the Streets: 40-50 trees identified. Collecting seasonal photos, and diameters, Jeremy is developing power point. It will not be ready for October 17. There was

discussion of identifying Auburn trees in the GIS as a separate layer to help develop walking tour. Noel will discuss with GIS consultant.

3. Chestnuts Across Maine groves: Franklin Pasture in Lewiston and Chestnut Park/PAL Center groves planted in May are growing, some as much as 2-3 Feet. Tubes and cages are intact. Trees are numbered and in the TACF data base for future data collection. Trees are from the most blight resistant trees in the Maine TACF system.

4. East Auburn School Gardens: Raised garden beds are thriving. Wil Libby, Evergreen Outdoor Education, has taken over the old Land Lab. He is developing a “food forest”, is preparing to host Auburn students, and will conduct training related to Land Lab activities. He has indoor space and is putting up a green house. Conservation WG members have assisted with pollinator garden plantings.

New Business:

1. Chloe reviewed State’s Community Fire-Proofing efforts highlighted recently on “Maine Calling” Town of Phippsburg website has details on efforts there. Goal is to reduce wildfire risk to structures on the urban/forest interface.
2. Planting of food forest plants referenced above (item 4) at East Auburn School/Land Lab will take place on Oct 9 from 10:00-1:00. About 200 trees will be planted with Help from TD Bank staff. Others are welcome,

Next Meeting: TBA

Adjourn: 7:14