

Minutes
Allegany County Forestry Board
June 2, 2021 from 1:00pm – 1:45pm
Webex Meeting – Covid-19 Rules
To promote the stewardship, conservation and
sustainable use of forest resources in Allegany County

Call to Order:

Chairman's Signature: _____

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman **Ken Roberts** at 1:03pm on June 2, 2021. Attendees included: **Bernie Zlomek, Sherry Frick, Francis Zumbrun, Tom Mathews, Dennis Bittinger, Ken Roberts, Brad Metzger, Steve Resh and Dan Hedderick**
- Not in Attendance: **Marie Miller and Juls Wood**

Goals and Annual Work Plan for the Board to meet for 2021
(Covid-19 may affect outcome):

- **Completed** Develop the 2021 Goals and Annual Work Plan
- **Completed** Raise funds to support Allegany County Forestry Board
- **Completed** Review positions held by the Board members
- Bring in new members
- **Started** Hold 8 local Forestry Board meetings and 4 special events
- **Started** Complete all financial disclosure forms
- **Completed** Sign all Volunteer Forms
- **Started** Find, interview, approve and financially support 2 students for NRCC
- **Completed** Promote outreach for NRCC
- **Started** Support NRCC at camp with volunteers
- Facilitate the Forestry portion of the Envirothon
- **Started** Organize, plan and co-sponsor with Allegany Arts Council the photo contest at the Allegany County Fair
- Facilitate 2 PLT Workshops
- **Completed** Facilitate Heritage Legacy Tree Program
- **Completed** Support Big Tree Program
- Support Cumberland Watershed Plan Implementation
- Support County and State in their efforts to implement land preservation programs
- **Completed** Facilitate both webpage and Facebook links and keep them active and adaptive
- **Started** Look into new programs with guest speakers to keep members educated on what is new

Note: Goals will be listed for the Forestry Board to track their success and act as a reminder of needed accomplishments for the 2021 Annual Work Plan. The word "accomplished" will be placed in the front of each goal once it has been completed.

Minutes Reviewed:

Ken asked if everyone received the minutes from April for review. There were no comments on the minutes. **Ken** asked **Dan** if the minutes had been submitted for public record and **Dan** said they had.

Financial Activities:

Bernie explained that **Francis's** Liberty Tree Program has brought in another \$415 plus **France** dropped off cash from the sale with an additional \$270.

(Motion)

Ken motioned to accept the treasurer's report and all were in favor.

Photo Contest:

Tom reported that the Allegany Arts Council will once again co-sponsor the Forestry Board's photo contest for a single tree in Allegany County. **Tom** sent the press release to **Sherry** for review and, once approved, **Francis** will make sure it makes it into the paper. Judging by the Forestry Board as a special event will be held Monday, July 19 starting at 9:00am at the Allegany County Fairgrounds.

Natural Resource Career Camp

Ken explained that Camp Hickory has 33 students signed up and that Allegany County Board have no one. **Dan** made an attempt with a teacher at Fort Hill and sent brochures and was told several students were interested, but no one applied. **Ken** asked if the Board was interested in making a donation to help other Counties that have more than two students signed up. **Dan** explained that **Dawn Balinski** was asking Boards that had no one going to consider a donation to help. **Dan** read off all the Counties that had more than 2 students going.

After a long discussion with comments from most all Board members, the decision was made to donate \$450 to the Maryland Forestry Foundation and take that funding out of the Liberty Project, which was a desire of **Francis** for that fundraiser.

Follow-up: **Dan** talked with **Dawn Balinski** and she said the Foundation was very happy and would accept the donation. She gave **Dan** two choices to help two different Counties and **Dan** choose Garrett County that is sending 3 students. **Dan** informed the Project Forester in Garrett County who then thanked the Board. **Dan** and **Bernie** are working on sending a check to the Foundation.

Liberty Tree:

Francis said that there is someone that is interested in partnering with us on the Liberty Tree Project. The Board decided **Francis** should again talk with these people and have them send a written inquiry to our Board as to their interests.

Francis also went on to say that he has 160 Liberty Tree requests for next year and is waiting to see how well the seed he collects germinates.

Big Tree Program:

Matt Voithofer contacted **Dan** and reported he accidentally broke the 100 foot tape measure.

(Motion)

Francis & Ken motioned that we purchase a new tape measure giving **Dan** the approval to spend between \$26 and \$30, all were in favor.

MD Forest Service & Forestry Board Update due to Covid-19:

Dan reported that employees are allowed to return to the office and they have been given from June 1 to July 1 to complete the transition back. Also, Forestry Board meetings can now be held outside. **Dan** explained that more information will be coming out as Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.

Sad Note:

Brad reported the passing of **Bernie Connor** retired Soil Conservation District employee.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 am

Upcoming Events:

- Photo judging, Allegany County Fair Monday, July 19, starting at 9:00am.
- Next meeting will be Wednesday, August 18, 2021, location to be determined based on Covid-19 restrictions. If there is a need to discuss Liberty Tree partnership, a tentative meeting has been discussed for Wednesday, July 28.

Attended Events: (note, members need to attend at least 50% of yearly meetings to be in good standing)

- **January 26, 2021** - Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Webex: **Tom Mathews, Bernie Zlomek, Sherry Frick, Juls Wood, Dennis Bittinger, Steve Resh, Francis Zumbrun and Dan Hedderick**
- **March 17, 2021** - Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Webex: **Tom Mathews, Bernie Zlomek, Sherry Frick, Dennis Bittinger, Steve Resh, Francis Zumbrun, Brad Metzger, Marie Miller and Dan Hedderick**
- **April 27, 2021** - Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Webex: **Bernie Zlomek, Sherry Frick, Francis Zumbrun, Juls Wood, Ken Roberts, and Dan Hedderick**
- **June 2, 2021**- Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Webex: **Bernie Zlomek, Sherry Frick, Francis Zumbrun, Tom Mathews, Dennis Bittinger, Ken Roberts, Brad Metzger and Dan Hedderick**