

Minutes
Allegheny County Forestry Board
May 18, 2023 from 9:05am – 10:51am
MD DNR Forest Service – Pleasant Valley Office
To promote the stewardship, conservation and
sustainable use of forest resources in Allegheny County

Call to Order:

Chairman's Signature: _____

- The meeting was called to order by Secretary Dan Hedderick at 9:05 am on May 18, 2023. Attendees included members: **Steve Resh, Juls Wood, Francis Zumbrun, Bernie Zlomek, Brad Metzger, Darrel Williams** and **Dan Hedderick**
- Not in attendance: **Ken Roberts** and **Marie Miller**

Goals and Annual Work Plan for the Board to meet for 2023

- **Completed** Develop the 2023 Goals and Annual Work Plan
- **Started** Raise funds to support Allegheny County Forestry Board
- **Started** Bring in new members
- **Started with 3 meetings and 9 special events** Hold 6 local Forestry Board meetings and 4 special events
- **Completed** Complete all financial disclosure forms
- **Completed** Sign all Volunteer Forms
- **Completed** Find, interview, approve and financially support 2 students for NRCC
- **Completed** Promote outreach for NRCC
- Support NRCC at camp with volunteers
- **Completed** Facilitate the Forestry portion of the Envirothon
- **Started** Organize, plan and co-sponsor with Allegheny Arts Council the photo contest at the Allegheny County Fair
- **Started** Facilitate 2 PLT Workshops
- **Started** Facilitate Heritage Legacy Tree Program
- **Completed** Support Big Tree Program
- **Started** Support Cumberland Watershed Plan Implementation
- Facilitate both webpage and Facebook links and keep them active and adaptive
- **Completed** Plan & present a landowner workshop on Forest Carbon Credits
- **Started (Wood Energy Darrel)** 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 2023 Annual Work Plan. The word "completed" will be placed in the front of each goal once it has been accomplished.

House Keeping Items:

Dan asked members to finish completing their volunteer forms. Also, he has asked again for the other re-appointment applications due now so they can be processed by September.

Review of Minutes:

Minutes were already reviewed and sent into the public record.

Financial Activities:

Bernie provided a report with the highlight that \$1000 has gone out to support NRCC students, one from Allegany County and one from Garrett County. Bernie says everything balances out nicely with the account.

(Motion)

Darrel motioned to accept the Treasurers report, seconded by Juls and all were in favor.

(Motion)

Dan made a request to have the gas grill tank filled since we used it several times in the past. Bernie motioned to fill 1 small gas grill tank, seconded by Juls and all were in favor.

Wood Chip Fuel:

Darrel Williams was asked to attend a trip with the MD DNR FS and MD Clean Energy Center to New Hampshire to tour wood energy systems. See Darrel's writeup, attached.

Juls Wood said he heard some rumblings about the AES Warrior Run power plant and is hoping to keep things positive towards wood energy. He helped recently in trying to dismiss and redirect any misconceptions about wood energy, since it is a win-win situation for us all.

Landowner Carbon Workshop:

The event was a big success with 75 attendees. The goal was to fill the room with 70 people, and we succeeded!

NRCC:

A student has been interviewed and accepted. Also, we all had voted to donate \$500 for a Garrett County student. Adam Miller had told Dan we might have another student interested, which we already have the funding for. Dan and Steve told the group that there are 2 slots left and time is running out. Dan said the student is not a senior and has time to jump in during the future if they don't make this year's deadlines.

Steve Resh will be assisting with Camp Hickory this year and staying at camp with Levi Sisler. It would be good to not only have volunteer forestry board members during the week, but to have them there on Friday, July 28 for the landowner interview process as well.

Membership:

Dan Hedderick and Adam Miller had put a short list of possible new Forestry Board members together and one name came to the surface, educator Anne Stark. This idea was well received by the group and Steve, Francis, Brad and Bernie all had positive things to say about Anne Stark. She has recently received the Richard A. Johnson award.

(Motion)

Bernie motioned to invite Anne Stark to our next meeting and, if all goes well, to place an application in front of her at some point in the future. Motion seconded by Juls and all were in favor.

Big Tree Logo Vote:

The Board has been asked to place a vote for a new Big Tree Logo. The Board really likes the green tree in Logo Design #3 and the words in Logo Design #5 and they are hoping that others have the same feeling about the logo. Forced to choose one design for a vote, they choose #3. Dan stressed the desire for the combination when responding to headquarters and the Big Tree Committee.

Liberty Tree:

Dan provided a mailed in Liberty Tree request to Francis. Francis reported that State Forest Nursery Manager Richard told him that seeds he provided are germinating well with 100+ seedlings and hoping they continue doing well! The nursery will get \$1 per seedling once they are sold by the Board. The bucket truck was part of the answer in gathering seed from higher up in the tree.

Kitzmiller Botanical Gardens:

Francis attended an event at the Kitzmiller Botanical Gardens to help with inventory and two state champions were found. The one he helped measure was a red pine. The gardens were established in 1948. More events to come, stay tuned.

Cumberland Watershed:

Steve reports that they hired Shannon Farrell to oversee the next timber harvest. Steve expressed concern over the City of Cumberland not having a forester on staff and will keep a watch on things as management of the watershed progresses.

Award:

Francis was given a Directors Accommodation related to the Centennial Program Celebration recently found in the Annapolis office from 2007 and signed by former State Forester Steve Koehn. All were pleased to congratulate Francis on his past accomplishments!

Leadership Update:

Anne Hairston-Strang is Acting State Forester

Also, Dan announced that he will be going up to Savage River State Forest to assist them. Adam Miller will be Project Forester working with the Forestry Board and Melissa Nash will be Project Manager supervising employees. This is a good thing for all, and each person will gain valuable experience and new challenges. This all starts Monday, May 22.

Upcoming Events:

- Adam and Ken Roberts will decide on the next events forthcoming.

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

- **January 19, 2023:** Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Google Meets: **Brad Metzger, Steve Resh, Ken Roberts, Juls Wood, Bernie Zlomek, Francis Zumbrun and Dan Hedderick**
- **January 31, 2023:** Forestry Days in Annapolis: **Darrel Williams**
- **February 22, 2023:** Western Maryland Forest Pest Update: **Brad Metzger and Bernie Zlomek**
- **February 23, 2023:** Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Google Meets: **Brad Metzger, Steve Resh, Ken Roberts, Marie Miller, Bernie Zlomek, Darrel Williams and Dan Hedderick**
- **March 8, 2023:** at 5:45pm. Landowner Carbon Workshop at Allegany College of Maryland Technology Building, Room 121: **Brad Metzger, Steve Resh, Marie Miller, Bernie Zlomek, Darrel Williams and Dan Hedderick**
- **March 9, 2023:** Statewide MD Association Annual Spring Forestry Board Meeting 8:30am to 3:00pm Tawes State Office Building C1 Conference Room 580 Taylor Avenue: **Bernie Zlomek, Dan Hedderick**

- **March 10, 2023:** Project Learning Tree Workshop for the Elementary Ed majors at Frostburg State University: **Francis Zumbrun, Bernie Zlomek, Brad Metzger and Steve Resh**
- **March 20-23:** Maryland DNR wood energy tour in New Hampshire in partnership with MD Clean Energy Center. **Darrel Williams**
- **April 19, 2023:** Assisted Garrett County Forestry Board with measuring big trees which produced a state champion red pine. **Francis Zumbrun and Melissa Nash**
- **April 20, 2023:** Interviewed and accepted student for NRCC: **Steve Resh, Marie Miller, Juls Wood and Dan Hedderick**
- **April 25, 2023: Envirothon:** **Francis Zumbrun, Bernie Zlomek**
- **May 6, 2023:** Attended 75th anniversary celebration of Kitzmiller Botanical Garden where a tree was planted, and signs were installed. **Francis Zumbrun and Melissa Nash**
- **May 18, 2023:** Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting Pleasant Valley: **Steve Resh, Juls Wood, Francis Zumbrun, Bernie Zlomek, Brad Metzger, Darrel Williams, and Dan Hedderick**
- **June 1, 2023:** Attended Appalachian Professional Foresters Association (APFA) summer meeting. **Bernie Zlomek, Steve Resh, Melissa Nash, and Adam Miller**