

Allegheny County Forestry Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 21, 2024, 9:30 am-11:30 am
Allegheny Arts Council Building
42 N Centre Street, Cumberland, MD 21502

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:30am by Chair Marie Miller.

Members Present: Marie Miller, Brad Metzger, Champ Zumbrun, Bernie Zlomek

Members Not in Attendance: Adam Miller, Darrel Williams, Steve Resh, Juls Wood, Anne Stark, Sarah Lewellyn

Special Guests: Maryssa Piper, Clayton Piper, Christopher Piper, Laura Crabtree, Aubrey Cramer

Goals and Annual Work Plan for the Board to meet for 2024

- **Completed** Develop the 2024 Goals and Annual Work Plan
- **Started** Raise funds to support Allegheny County Forestry Board
- **Started** Bring in new members
- **Started** Hold at least 6 local Forestry Board meetings and 4 special events
- **Completed** Complete all financial disclosure forms and Volunteer forms
- **Completed** Attend arbor day event at LaVale Library to present historic tree cookie
- **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
- **Completed** plan and co-sponsor with Allegheny Arts Council the photo contest at the Allegheny County Fair
- **Started** Facilitate 2 PLT Workshops
- Facilitate Heritage Legacy Tree Program
- Support Big Tree Program
- **Started** Support Cumberland Watershed Plan Implementation
- **Started** Facilitate both webpage and Facebook links and keep them active and adaptive
- **Completed** Conduct a county-wide 5th grade arbor day poster contest
- **Started** Review and approve urban tree planting grants such as MDOT & MUCFC

Note: Goals will be listed for the Forestry Board to track their success and act as a reminder of needed accomplishments for the 2024 Annual Work Plan. The word "completed" will be placed in the front of each goal once it has been accomplished.

The meeting began at 9:30 am with the awarding of the prizes to the photo contest winners. Board members asked each winner about their photo and the winners shared some information about their entries. Winners were as follows: First place, Aubrey Cramer, Second place- Laura Crabtree, Third place- Lucas Piper. Lucas Piper's wife and children were present in his place to receive the prize. Photos were taken to be shared on the Forestry board website and social media and winners were excused.

Old Business

Review of Minutes:

Approval of the June meeting minutes was tabled to the next meeting.

Volunteer Hours (Since last meeting): 113 (includes Marie's hours at NRCC if they count)

Members reported the following volunteer hours: Champ 9 hours (Liberty tree, big tree), Brad 5 hours (NRCC, Big tree), Bernie 2 hours (financials, PLT), Steve 4 hours (NRCC), Marie (87 NRCC hours?), Photo contest Brad, Sarah, Annie, Champ, Marie, Adam @1 hour each for 6 hours

Financial Activities:

Bernie provided a copy of the updated financial report. Champ made a motion to transfer money from the Liberty tree account to the NRCC account in order to balance the budget and Brad seconded the motion. Bernie expressed a need for supplies for the upcoming PLT workshop. Champ made a motion to approve the expenditures related to PLT and Brad seconded. Champ inquired about monetary needs for the NRCC account and Bernie suggested that Adam reach out to the Soil Conservation office and LaVale Lions Club about their usual donations before moving any funds.

FOR 101 Camp:

Juls was not present to provide a recap of FOR 101 camp so this item was tabled for the next meeting.

NRCC:

Brad and Marie provided a summary of their time at NRCC. Brad stated that it was a good group of students who seemed very attentive. Marie said that enrollment was a little low at camp but overall the week went very well. All speakers provided excellent programs and there were no major issues. Will Williams assisted Gabrielle Oldham as the camp assistant director because Gabrielle had indicated that this may be her last year. That is still to be decided. Marie indicated that there may be some minor curriculum changes in the works for next camp.

Smokey's Reading Challenge:

Smokey's reading challenge was not executed this summer, partially due to lack of participation by Rocky Gap State Park who had agreed to partner for the event. Marie still wants to pursue the reading challenge in some capacity and Brad will provide a new contact with the library system. Champ suggested 5th grade outdoor school as a great place to share the reading challenge. Marie will provide Champ with information on the challenge ASAP (outdoor school begins next week). Discussion on the high school art contest was tabled to the next meeting with more people in attendance.

Liberty Tree:

Champ provided a liberty tree update and he has been very busy! He met with MD 250 and they had plenty of ideas related to the Liberty Tree program including potential funding opportunities for NRCC and planting Liberty Trees in prestigious places. Champ is receiving many requests for Liberty Trees and Information. He acknowledged Sherry Frick for helping generate the first ever Liberty Tree Sales. Champ plans to hire Davey Tree to assist in collecting seed from the Liberty Tree again this fall. Board members inquired about the stability and longevity of the relationship with St. John's College and suggested formalizing the relationship or at least honoring the college for their contributions. Champ informed the group of his plans to travel the route marched from Oldtown to Boston by Cresap's Riflemen for the MD 250 Sesquicentennial and plant liberty trees along the way.

New Business:

Mike Minnick Donation:

Most discussion on this was tabled for the next meeting.

Potential New Member:

Brad informed the group that he had talked to Donnelle Keech and she expressed interest in rejoining the forestry board. He will invite her to the next meeting.

Big Tree Measuring Day, Fall meeting/picnic, Fall meeting dates:

Tabled to next meeting

5th Grade poster contest:

Tabled to next meeting

PLT:

Fall PLT Workshop will be held on October 25th at FSU. Bernie shared this information with Cacapon Institute staff who were interested in attending. Adam can invite the Secretary or other DNR representatives upon his return.

Website/Facebook:

Marie provided a quick update about the board website and asked that each member send a headshot and brief biography to post on the website. She also asked for information related to programs to post on the website (Champ- Liberty Tree, Bernie- PLT). She plans to have a work-study student work on the website this fall.

Upcoming Events:

PLT- October 25th

The meeting adjourned at 11:10am.

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

- **January 18, 2024:** Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting at Pleasant Valley and Google Meets. **Brad Metzger, Steve Resh, Darrel Williams Juls Wood, Annie Stark, Francis Zumbrun and Adam Miller**
- **January 22, 2024:** Adam and Bernie met to work on the Forestry Board Facebook page. It was decided that a new page will be created. **Bernie Zlomek and Adam Miller**
- **February 9, 2024:** Champ attended 8 elementary schools across the county to promote the 5th grade arbor day poster contest. Annie helped to arrange this behind the scenes. **Francis Zumbrun and Annie Stark**
- **February 20, 2024:** Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting at Pleasant Valley. **Brad Metzger, Bernie Zlomek, Darrel Williams Juls Wood, Sarah Llewellyn (guest), Francis Zumbrun and Adam Miller**
- **March 8, 2024:** Facilitated a Project Learning Tree (PLT) Workshop at Frostburg State University (FSU). **Bernie Zlomek, Steve Resh, Champ Zumbrun, Adam Miller, Julie Conway & Kat Phillips.**
- **March 20, 2024:** March Forestry Board Meeting at Pleasant Valley Forestry Office. **Juls Wood, Marie Miller, Brad Metzger, Adam Miller and Darrell Williams (virtual)**
- **March 20, 2024:** Interviewed a potential NRCC student from Allegany County at Pleasant Valley Forestry Office. **Juls Wood, Marie Miller & Adam Miller**
- **March 25, 2024:** LaVale Civic Association open at the LaVale Library to display historic tree cookie, promote Forestry 101 camp at Evergreen, and to provide info and/or materials for tree planting event. **Juls Wood, Brad Metzger, and Champ Zumbrun**
- **April 1, 2024:** Interviewed a potential NRCC student from Allegany County at Pleasant Valley Forestry Office. **Juls Wood, Champ Zumbrun, Marie Miller & Adam Miller**
- **April 13, 2024:** LaVale Civic Association tree give-a-way and tree planting event. 44 trees **Brad Metzger**
- **April 15, 2024:** Rocky Gap Veterans Cemetery tree planting event. 16 trees. **Adam Miller, Kat Phillips, Julie Conway & Melissa Nash**

- **April 20, 2024:** LaVale Arbor celebration event where tree cookie and a liberty tree were publicly dedicated. **Brad Metzger and Champ Zumbrun**
- **April 22, 2024:** Cumberland Arbor Day Event. 12 trees were planted. **Adam Miller**
- **April 24, 2024:** Hosted forestry component of Allegany County Envirothon at Rocky Gap. **Bernie Zlomek, Champ Zumbrun, and Adam Miller**
- **April 30, 2024:** Completed a riparian buffer planting of 500 seedlings at Allegany College with approximately 35 highschool and college students. **Adam Miller, Marie Miller, Julie Conway, Kat Phillips, and Annie Stark**
- **May 6, 2024:** Interviewed a potential NRCC student from Allegany County at Pleasant Valley Forestry Office. **Marie Miller and Adam Miller**
- **May 10, 2024:** Completed a tree planting at the Cumberland Episcopal Church. 33 trees were planted. **Adam Miller, Kat Phillips & Julie Conway**
- **May 14, 2024:** May Forestry Board Meeting at Pleasant Valley Forestry Office. **Juls Wood, Marie Miller, Sarah Llewellyn, Adam Miller, Bernie Zlomek, Annie Stark, Darrell Williams, Steve Resh (virtual) and Champ Zumbrun (virtual)**
- **May 16, 2024:** Interviewed a potential NRCC student from Bedford County, PA at Pleasant Valley Forestry Office. **Marie Miller and Adam Miller**
- **June 10-12, 2024:** Forestry Board Summit Meeting. Handed out Liberty Trees. **(Steve Resh & Darrell Williams)**
- **June 20, 2024:** Summer picnic/meeting at Darrell's house. **(Bernie Zlomek, Annie Stark, Steve Resh, Darrel Williams, Francis Zumbrun, Adam Miller, and Kat Phillips)**
- **June 17-28, 2024:** Forestry 101 Camp at Evergreen Heritage Center. Juls wood was the camp director and Adam attended as a speaker at the camp. **Juls Wood, Adam Miller, Marie Miller**
- **July 14, 2024-** Allegany County Fair Photo Judging. **Sarah Lewellyn, Anne Stark, Adam Miller, Champ Zumbrun, Brad Metzger, Marie Miller**
- **July 21-27, 2024-** NRCC. Brad, Steve, and Adam were speakers. Marie was Curriculum director. **Brad Metzger, Steve Resh, Adam Miller, Marie Miller**
- **August 21, 2024-** Meeting and Photo Judging Award presentation. **Marie Miller, Champ Zumbrun, Brad Metzger, Bernie Zlomek**