

CARROLL COUNTY FORESTRY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Wednesday, February 2, 2022

PLACE: Virtual On-Line

TIME: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

- **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chris Spaur at 6:05PM
- **Attendance** (all via Google Meets) – Chair Chris Spaur, Treasurer Geary Schwemmer, Secretary Jamie Weaver, Roland Fish, and Bryan Shumaker.

Administration-

Review/Approval of January 2022 meeting minutes: No mistakes noted and passed as presented.

Treasury Report: Treasurer Geary Schwemmer-

- Financial activity for January: Beginning balance was \$4,191.82
- Ending balance is \$4,091.82

Bank Activity ending January 31, 2022:

Statement balance = \$4,091.82

Total debits = \$100.00

1/10/22 Donation to MD Big Tree Program (CK# 1078) \$100.00 \$4,091.82

Chuck Lewis MD Tree Farmer OF The Year: Chris Spaur updated the group about the progress of the letter crafted as a press release and a copy that will be sent to the County Commissioner that represents Chuck's district. Geary sent a copy to WBAL Channel 11 to their 'Newstips' division.

Baltimore Wilderness Coalition: A brief review of BWC's proposal to join their coalition led to a brief discussion on CCFB's obligations. Specifically, Roland asked how often it would be required to meet. Chris said he would follow-up with Ashley on this topic, and it was agreed a vote to join or not join would be postponed to the March meeting.

4H Funding Request: In late January, CCFB received a 4H request for financial contributions via Torrey Silliman with UMD Extension. Roland provided a historical account of CCFB's past donations to 4H and other groups. Several years ago, CCFB ceased donations to 4H to conserve funds when the bank account held little in reserve. Geary offered to provide an 'In-Kind' donation instead of committing any monetary assistance to the program. Bryan has a working relationship with Torrey and offered to follow-up with her to discuss the 'In-Kind' options.

Programs/Updates:

Workshop: Chris has reserved the Mount Airy pavilion for 14 October 2022 and decided that this will be a half day workshop. Chris has reached out to six of the speakers previously scheduled to present at the last workshop that was cancelled due to the pandemic. Two of the six have responded that they are still interested, two declined, and two have yet to respond. Rich Star has agreed to speak about reforestation along streams, and Dave Robbins with Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) agreed to speak (topic uncertain). Potential speakers include Geary (Big Tree Program), Laura (native plants) along with two potential discussions with AgroForestry (Ben Kable and Francis Smith).

Big Trees: Geary and Mark Lipnick (Baltimore County Forestry Board Member) measured/re-measured 11 Howard County trees. Four new trees were measured and two or three trees can no longer be found.

Backyard Buffer: Jamie sent a draft of the 2022 BYB website for Board review and provided a brief review of the Backyard Buffer program.

Arbor Day Posters: It was decided that poster judging would be done in person at a South Carroll High School Annex Building on Thursday, 4 February 2022.

Intern Logistics: Lessons learned from the fall 2021 intern season provide guidance for future prospective interns. A structured program to include a work plan with specific projects needs developed. Consideration in colleges was also discussed. During the traditional college calendar, McDaniel and Carroll Community offer local student resources. Summer/winter interns could capture an intern population that attends school elsewhere.

7:27 PM: Motion to adjourn was made by Bryan, seconded by Geary, and passed.

Action Items:

Administrative

- Transfer Donna off of the bank account information and add Jamie Weaver to the account
- Board members continue to help develop a list of possible local sponsors
- ~~Craft a Board Vision Statement~~
- Review Baltimore Wilderness Coalition membership opportunity and vote on joining the Coalition
- Reach out to prospective members
- Complete sponsor letter

4-H Request

- Speak with Torrey Silliman about 'In-Kind' donations

~~Arbor Day Posters~~

- ~~Conduct judging and submit to Annapolis for statewide judging~~

Workshop

- Check lighting/projector suitability at Watkins Park/check pavilion availability and set a workshop date
- ~~Reserve Mt. Airy pavilion (Chris)~~
- ~~Confirm Fall Fest/Apple Fest dates to avoid conflicts (Roland)~~
- Create a flow sheet for planning expenses and income

Chuck Lewis PR

- ~~Complete Chuck Lewis Press Release (Laura)~~
- ~~Geary will touch base with his niece regarding any opportunities for television pieces~~
- Submit to County Commissioner

Next meeting: Thursday, 3 March 2022, 6PM held in person at Westminster Public Library (small meeting room)