

CARROLL COUNTY FORESTRY BOARD - MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, 17 July 2025

PLACE: Zoom

TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Attending: Jordan Brown, Fred Dickinson, Geary Schwemmer, Bryan Shumaker, Bill Warburton, Jamie Weaver

Agenda:

- action items and project to create a CCFB 2026 calendar for fundraising sale at fall events such as Envirofest, Piney Run Fallfest, etc.
- the MFS county office high tunnel fell off the agenda radar. We had talked about a field trip to look at a local version where a guy I knew had DIY'd the roll up sides, poly skin sources, etc.. Is there continued Board interest in this or has Jamie/Dylan/Cara been making progress on this rehab?
- any summary from the SAF meeting interesting to this Board? ... maybe Jamie could send a seminar recap out if one was produced by that Board secretary?
- Status on logo format/usage conversations.
- Update on the transition plans for the state wide Forestry Boards.

Previous meeting: May 15, 2025

- **Approved** June minutes for publishing (5_15_2025_CCFB_minutes.doc). All Boards are supposed to publish their minutes here: <https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/fboards-minutes.aspx>

New Business:

- We did a quick virtual around the table introducing ourselves with a short overview of background/interests and by way of us all meeting Jordan and learning a bit about him. Captured his summary here for Board members. Jordan is the community forestry coordinator in the Maryland Urban and Community Forestry Council (MUCFC) for the Maryland Forest Service. Also the Central Region Coordinator, so he governs Carroll, Baltimore, Cecil, Montgomery, and Harford counties and does a lot of educational outreach to schools and organizations all over. He will be the secretary for the Central Region Forestry Board, once that gets put into place so that role will be his primary interface to us. Later on, he will also be taking over things such as Tree-Mendous, "Gift of trees" and other programs that are tied to the MUCFC.
- Society of American Foresters (SAF) meeting notes: **Action: Jamie** can share PDFs/presentations, presumably by uploading to CCFB Google drive. Summary attempt: it was a half days seminar, with a few different speakers that really spoke to alternative or innovative management markets and approaches. There were 2 notable talks, one dealt with what we are doing about urban wood, and finding alternative streams to keep it out of the landfills, the second about a barrel producer stave mill looking for White Oak, where they're sourcing their wood from. They're not just getting it from Kentucky and Tennessee, they're pulling in wood from all of the States that grow white oak. The guy who spoke about those alternative streams has projects all over the United States more or less right now some of it is proof of concept, but others are starting to expand capacity. In

some instances what they're doing is taking existing mills that have closed, which is an unfortunate trend, and then shrinking a wood radius within the urban community area to then take wood that would otherwise be ending up as slash, perfectly good trees that would be standing in a traditional forested ecosystem, and being harvested to command a good price.

- CCFB Calendar for fundraising. Board concluded this wasn't feasible for us to do but Geary outlined that the state Big Tree program is putting a calendar together for a 2026 big tree calendar, and his understanding is DNR is going to help foot the bill, if not the whole thing. So he has a meeting coming up with the Big Tree Committee, and is going to push forward the idea to get DNR to produce enough of these to donate them to the local boards. So we could sell them at our tabling events this fall and put some money back into our treasury. **Board agreed** with this approach. The request was also to Jordan and Jamie to help push that.

Also some discussion about online sales through our FB page or website but seemed a lot of unknowns and not enough traffic to support the effort.

Programs:

- No updates

Old Business:

- CCFB logo

Discussion around obtaining final logo with transparency layer, hat/shirts, problem with minimum quantities, baseball cap would be about \$500 for minimum 24, polo shirt would be about \$430 for minimum 12 not including setup fees/embroidery. Decision agreed that if we acquired some, Board members who wanted them would purchase, CCFB funds would not be used. After the meeting Jamie suggested looking at fabricators on Etsy to get around the significant costs and minimums, see his email "Re: New Logo - Gear Mock-ups" on 7/18.

Action: Bill to send out logo with transparency work he did.

- MUCFC grants. Two cycles per year, the fall cycle approval just ended before the 7/17 meeting. Dylan is taking the lead on these grants since he's the local MUFCF point person along with 5 Million Trees. There were several projects Dylan reviewed and Jamie provided some feedback. They're signed off and moving forward, One for FSK, one for Hampstead. **Action:** Jamie will send out so Board can see. Dylan did this, see his comprehensive email titled "Carroll County MUCFC/MDOT Grant Recipients for Fall 2025 Cycle" on 8/4
- High tunnel. Bones are good, Kara had spec'd replacement skin. Also wanted to improve it with retractable sides for better temperature control but essentially budget is unknown, as of the meeting, no Central Region operating budget so no progress likely this year. When we go forward, the Board could likely help with labor, engineering, other ideas, etc. Geary and Fred expressed interest on record so will keep checking in.

- Treasurer's Report.

Geary no activity, sent reports after the meeting. See Geary's email of 7/20 titled "Re: Zoom info : Thursday 7/17 6-7:30"

- State wide Forestry Boards transition plans

Jordan reports the transition is progressing, more or less as expected. The timeline hasn't changed much, it hasn't been extended, or pushed forward as far as he knows, it's still looking at the same rough timeline, Q1 2016. Essentially, things still have to get fully into the legislative sphere, so it's having conversations with the Secretary of DNR and with the State Forester, and deputy Forester. So there's not much movement there yet. One of the big things that they're trying to work on is the banking system, there's been controversy with that piece. Also consolidating databases like the previous one we just had in this meeting about the Big Tree program. Details around consolidation of the website management is also still unknown and no timeline for when and how details will be communicated.

- Arbor Day poster contest. Brief wrap-up, we didn't quite get our act together in terms of effectively communicating winners, and getting the top 3 artists something special at the county level. But we did see a nice spike in CCFB website activity in the work Bill did posting the art to the website and around the email notification to the teachers of the Arts Council exhibit and our website. We'd like to reach further to the parents of the artists also to make sure they're aware of the web/FB presence.

Other Notes:

Some brainstorming around Bill's idea of a March of Dimes model for raising money by planting trees.