



# CALVERT COUNTY FOREST CONSERVANCY DISTRICT BOARD

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*Autumn Phillips-Lewis, Chair*    *Dawn Balinski, Treasurer*    *Kenneth Johnston*    *Jill Lee*  
*David Hardy*    *Steve Stadelman*

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The Calvert County Forest Conservancy District Board met on Wednesday September 13, 2023, at the Phillips House in Prince Frederick, MD. Member attendance included Dawn Balinski, Autumn Phillips-Lewis, Steve Stadelman, Jill Lee, Kenneth Johnston and Brian Stupak. Guests included Amalia Pleake-Tamm, Amelia “Jackie” Barrett, Melissa Barrett, Virginia “Vi” Moss, Erin Moss and Rayleigh Sterling. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Autumn Phillips-Lewis, Chairperson.

## **Treasurer’s Report**

- Current balance - \$4,737.00
- Income - \$3,100.00 – County grant
- Expenditures
  - \$42.34 – website domain renewal
  - \$600.00 – NRCC activity fee reimbursements (4 students)

## **Old Business**

- Website update – The current site is still working, but the Weebly hosting services will end in December 2023. The domain name has been renewed for 2 more years. Steve Stadelman will solicit three bids for redesigning the website. Microsoft 365 services will be allowed to expire.

## **New Business**

- New Board member applicant – The Board reviewed the application of Amalia Pleake-Tamm to join the Board. Amalia is an attorney, specializing in environmental matters and currently is an Environmental Planner with the Calvert Co. Planning & Zoning Dept. She is a Calvert native and owns 13 acres of forested land in St. Leonard. The Board unanimously voted to approve Amalia’s application.
- NRCC student reports – The Board heard from three of Calvert’s NRCC students (Barrett, Moss & Sterling) about their experiences at camp this year. The fourth student (Vilcheck) was unable to attend but was interviewed by Dawn Balinski before the meeting. Overall, the student’s experiences were positive. Recommendations included better planning of the group management project (ensuring adequate prep time), updating some presentation materials, reducing the daily class workload or adding additional days to the camp.
- Text amendments – the Board regularly receives invitations to comment on Calvert P&Z text amendments. Most have little impact to forestry issues; however, the amendment packages rarely provide any context on the proposed changes.
- Fall Forestry Event – the Board voted to postpone the forestry event to spring 2024. March 16, 23 and April 13, 2024, were selected as possible dates. The format will be a hands-on “how to” style and will include 3-4 learning stations on topics such as chainsaw maintenance, brush pile/den tree/vine mgmt., trail layout and pruning. The event will be held at the ACLT Double Oak Farm. A box lunch will be provided to all attendees.

- New officer elections – With the retirement of Chuck Gustin, the role of vice-chair was vacant. Nominations were opened and Jill Lee applied for the position. The Board unanimously voted to accept Jill as the new vice-chair.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. The next regular meeting will be October 11, 2023, at the Phillips House in Prince Frederick, MD. **The meeting will start at 6:00pm.**