



Chair – Jim Arnold  
Secretary – Dakota Durcho

Frederick County Forestry Board Meeting Minutes  
November 11, 2024

**Members Present:** M. Kay, T. Anderson, J. Arnold, K. Schoonover, C. Farmer, D. Durcho

**Guests:** C. Tipton

**NRCC:** The board interviewed our first NRCC student of the year. The motion was made to send Claire Mott to NRCC, the vote passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** The beginning balance for October was \$7,676.25. There was one deposit over the past month for \$295.00, for the Spotted Lantern Fly meeting. There was \$0.16 interest accrued. There were no withdrawals over the past month. The new balance is \$7,971.41.

Tom reinforced the need to keep track of our time/work in serving Frederick County by trying to keep a good measure of our work. Having quantifiable numbers will help sell what we do and will allow us to keep getting support from the county.

**Logging Site Exams:** One logging site exam was submitted over the past month. This property directly adjoins the 4H Camp in south Frederick, which has already been reviewed by the board for a timber harvest. This additional harvest area will remove dead and dying trees as well as thin overstocked areas of the forest. The landowner's goals are to generate income and promote future timber harvesting opportunities. 85 trees will be removed, in addition to a number of cull trees. Basal area is presently at 120 and will be taken down to about 70. Dakota will reach out to the board to schedule a site visit.

**Outreach:**

**1. Community**

The board has been working on the initial phase to host a tree planting seminar. At the present, a draft agenda has been put together. The agenda has a variety of tree planting topics, a panel discussion, and break out sessions. A motion was made to accept the agenda, and the vote passed unanimously. A final agenda is planned for completion by January 1<sup>st</sup>. The goal is to connect tree planting professionals with those looking to plant trees throughout Frederick County, to help obtain the 5 Million Tree goal.

Venue's were discussed, with initial estimates ranging from \$500 to \$1,100 for a day's use at educational institutions. Chuck also brought up fire halls, as another good alternative. Fees for attendance were also briefly discussed, with \$20 per person seeming to be a reasonable amount. These fees would help cover the venue cost and include the price of lunch, which would be provided. Outside sponsors may be another option, such as MFA, or 5MT. Booths and displays can also be set up as an open forum style for vendors and contractors, as a way to advertise. The planned date for such a meeting would be in May (hopefully on a Friday) some time, but is yet to be determined. Some

**Frederick County Forest Conservancy District Board**

[frederick.forestryboard.org](http://frederick.forestryboard.org)

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constituents that we hope to invite include Farm Bureau, HOAs, Sustainable Frederick, Property Managers, Municipalities, etc.

## 2. Urban Forestry

1. Bruce looked at and listed 5 new Big Trees along the C&O Canal with Baltimore County Forestry Board member Marc Lipnick. These 5 include a Shumard oak (313 points), hackberry (293 points), 2 bitternut hickories (269 & 268 points), and a cottonwood (400 points). The cottonwood should be a new county champ. A yellow-poplar was measured in Myersville for 296 points, making it too small to qualify for the Big Tree database.

Mike has continued to make revisions to the Big Tree's article for the FNP. He will send the latest version out to the board once completed.

2. We are still waiting to hear back from DNR staff regarding the Old Growth Forest Network nomination.

3. Bruce followed up and checked Jim's work for the missing or damaged tree tags at Baker Park. A total of 6 replacement tags were ordered for Baker Park, in addition to the 3 that were vandalized at Mt. Olivet. The total for the replacement tags came to \$142.50. Jim also, updated the walks on the web page to reflect this inventory.

4. Chuck will be working with Anna Twigg to plant the 3 fruit trees he has at Sabillasville Environmental School on Wednesday 11/13.

## 3. Media

1. Nature Notes: We will prepare nature notes as time allows.

2. Website: Jim will continue to keep the website up to date.

3. Social Media: We continue to grow our FB & IG presence.

## New Business

The December meeting has been cancelled. We will meet at Golden Corral at 6:30pm on December 9<sup>th</sup> for a board dinner.

Mike invited Claude Eans (Forestry Board Retiree) to our December dinner.

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