



Chair – Jim Arnold
Secretary – Dakota Durcho

Frederick County Forestry Board Meeting Minutes January 13, 2025

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

Treasurer's Report: The beginning balance for November was \$7,971.41. There was one deposit over the past two months for \$951.70, from Frederick County. There was \$0.35 interest accrued. There were three withdrawals, \$142.50 for the purchase of new tree walk signs, \$243.46 to the Washington County Forestry Board for half share of the SLF meeting proceeds, and an Amazon purchase for a scale to weigh seed for \$34.97 over the past two months. The new balance is \$8,502.53.

Logging Site Exams: No logging site exams came in over the past month.

Outreach:

1. Community

1. The board has continued to plan the tree planting seminar. The goal is to connect tree planting programs/professionals with those looking to plant trees throughout Frederick County, to help obtain the 5 Million Trees goal. 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 final version of the agenda will be completed by Jim. Dakota will put together a flyer announcement for the meeting, and the board will start advertising. Over the past two months, the board has solicited quotes from various venues, where the meeting could be hosted. The board came to the conclusion that Frederick Community College would be best. Mike made a motion to accept the quote to go with FCC, and the board unanimously voted in favor of the decision. The final quote including lunch came to \$1,829. The plan is to charge \$20 per person to help absorb the cost of hosting the meeting, in hopes of having around 100 people in attendance. The meeting is planned for either May 14th or 15th of 2025. Booths and displays can also be set up as an open-forum style for vendors and contractors as a way to advertise, at a cost of \$100. Constituents that we hope to invite include Landowners, Farm Bureau, HOAs, Sustainable Frederick, Property Managers, Municipalities, etc.

Next Steps: The board will begin reaching out to constituents and disseminating the flyer announcement, as well as general advertising. Dakota will get DNR COI. Jim will finalize the agenda and reserve FCC for either May 14th or 15th. Mike will handle CEUs.

The board discussed grant opportunities and decided that the timeframe is tight but, if unsuccessful for the current meeting, it is something we can consider for subsequent meetings.

2. Mike will handle the next planned tree walk, which will be held on February 15th at 12 noon at the Gambrill Red Trail.

Frederick County Forest Conservancy District Board

frederick.forestryboard.org

8602 Gambrill Park Road, Frederick, MD 21702



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2. Urban Forestry

1. Bruce and some of the Baltimore County Forestry Board have been measuring big trees along the C&O Canal. A total of 20 new trees have been added to the county list. Additionally, there are 12 trees that will need their 10 year remeasure this year. The board is also seeking permission from the Visitation Center to measure their larger yellow-poplar. The tags that were ordered to replace those that were missing or damaged at Baker Park and Mt. Olivet have been received. Mike will complete final revisions on 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. A 2-mile stretch along the C&O Canal is also being considered for an OGFN nomination.
3. The board wants to consider a "liberty tree" like program as a fundraising opportunity. This wouldn't be to compete with the existing program, but to offer potted trees to residents of Frederick County. Mike recommended reaching out to Champ Zumbrun, on the Allegany board, to get a better understanding of how they handle the logistics of their program.

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

If the tree planting seminar is well received this year, the board would like to continue to host an annual meeting that would help promote forestry. Bruce discussed pursuing grant opportunities for such a meeting as well as for other potential projects across the county. The Chesapeake Bay Trust and the Community Foundation were mentioned.

Keith expressed concern about a recently marked harvest of black walnut by out-of-state loggers. His concern is that the stand is being marked too heavily, cutting trees not near economic maturity, as well as high grading. Keith used the opportunity to inform and educate the landowner.

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