



Chair – Jim Arnold
Secretary – Dakota Durcho

Frederick County Forestry Board Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2025

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

Treasurer's Report: The beginning balance for January was \$8,502.53. No transactions occurred over the past month. There was \$0.18 interest accrued. The new balance is \$8,502.71.

Logging Site Exams: One logging site plan was received over the past month, from consulting forester Greg Baker. The planned harvest is about 20 acres in size. The goal is to harvest mature and over-mature timber, retaining about 50-60 sq. ft. of BA/acre. Establishing the next cohort is another landowner objective.

Dakota will reach out to the board to set a date to complete this timber harvest inspection.

Outreach:

1. Community

1. The board has continued to plan the tree planting seminar. May 15th has been confirmed with FCC. Mike will work with Jim to get a check made out to reserve the facility for the day. The agenda was discussed in detail. Welcomes / introductions will be handled by Jim Arnold and Bob Schwartz (MC). There will be a questionnaire at sign in where attendees can fill out a "why are you here and what do you hope to learn card". A few of these will be presented at the beginning of the meeting. Topics will be as follows: 5 Million Trees Program – Isaac Whitmore, Seedling Planting – Craig Highfield, Larger Growing Stock Planting – TBD (good options: Josh Dunk, master gardener, extension, etc.). Panel discussion with various tree planting programs: Craig Highfield – HFW, Linda Williamson – Creek ReLeaf, Isaac Whitmore 5MT/MUCFC/MDOT, Holly Boyer(?) – NRCS/MDA. Breakout sessions for each speaker will follow the above presentations. CEUs have been received from SAF, ISA, and LTE (pending). We plan to invite the following organizations / people: SAF (Mike), ISA (Mike), FALCAN (Bruce), property management, municipalities (Mike), Farm Bureau (Chuck), Other Forestry Boards (Jim), Frederick Sustainability Committee (Tom)

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

2. Urban Forestry

1. A silver maple was measured by members of the Baltimore County Forestry Board. The Frederick board decided to decline its nomination due it being multi-stemmed and not in line with the current measurement practices accepted by American Forests and the University of Tennessee. The board received permission from the Visitation Center to measure their larger yellow-poplar. Bruce will

Frederick County Forest Conservancy District Board

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schedule this measurement at an agreed upon time. Bruce also mentioned the book that John Bennett is writing with the largest recorded native trees in Maryland.

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. Media

1. Nature Notes: We will prepare nature notes as time allows.
2. Website: Jim will continue to keep the website up to date. He is also going to add a web page for the planned tree planting seminar.
3. Social Media: We continue to grow our FB & IG presence.

New Business

The board decided to attend the Thurmont Green Fest again this year on April 12th at the Thurmont library. We've ordered 300 trees/shrubs to hand out at the event. Mike, Bruce, Chuck, Jim, and maybe Tom will plan to make the event.

The Maryland Forestry Board Association Meeting is planned for March 6th from 8:15am to 3:00pm at Greenbrier State Park. All members were encouraged to attend.

Kevin Moore's celebration of life will be held on February 16th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm at the Middletown Volunteer Fire Hall.

Bruce discussed grant opportunities through the CBT. It sounded like we would qualify for the grants, however the amount of time and effort needed to write the grant would make it difficult. Additionally, the board would need more members to meet requirements for such grants. It may be something to pursue in the future, if membership and responsibilities are increased.

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