



Chair – Jim Arnold
Secretary – Dakota Durcho

Frederick County Forestry Board Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2026

Members Present: B. Phillips, T. Anderson, C. Farmer, J. Arnold, K. Kyde, M. Kay, A. Twigg, D. Durcho
Guests: Al Goetzl

Treasurer's Report: The beginning balance for February was \$10,113.97. There were no deposits over the past month. Interest accrued was \$0.16. There were two withdrawals. One was for a tree planting grant payout for \$1,013.50. The other was for the memorial bench purchase at Waterford Park totaling \$4,013.22. The months end balance was \$5,087.41.

Logging Site Exams: There were no logging site exams submitted over the past month.

Outreach:

1. Community

1. The bench for Waterford Park has been paid for and was delivered to Frederick City DPW. Jim has followed up with the city to see if they have a date set to install the bench. We are waiting for a response. The blackgum description sign, which will be affixed to a nearby post, has been ordered. Mike will be mailing a check to pay for the sign. We are still in search of a black locust post that can be used to mount the sign to. Once found Keith will mill it to size.

2. The next workshop we would like to host is on tree health. We thought this would be a good opportunity to partner with Hood College. The walk could take place at Hood College and be a walk around campus with an arborist. We also discussed pairing this with a 1-hour presentation in conjunction with Hood College's environmental series. We would need to find a speaker for this, however. Dakota will reach out to Josh Dunk the Frederick City Arborist, to see if he would be interested. Dan Yates and Chris Riley were also discussed as potential speakers. Timeframe for this walk/workshop would be September.

3. We will be attending the Thurmont Green Fest on April 18th from 10am – 2pm. We plan to distribute seedlings at this event.

4. The board plans to attend the Middletown Green Expo is on 3/28 from 10am – 2pm.

5. Jim will be attending the AstraZeneca Earth Day event on April 29th from 10am – 2pm.

* Dakota will let the board know when trees are delivered so that we can schedule to sort and pack them. Dakota will also look to see what handouts are available.



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2. Urban Forestry

1. Bruce, with help from Tom, was able to track down and measure the remaining trees from the 2025 remeasure list. Several trees from the 2026 list have also been remeasured. There are 18 trees remaining for remeasurement. Two trees on this year's list are Keith's. Bruce will continue coordination. John Bennett will send out notices for remeasures, alleviating the need to contact landowners ahead of time.

Doug Inkley from the Washington County board measured an American Holly in Frederick, however it is not within 70% of the existing champ, so it was not accepted.

Bruce and Jim are working to update and add some of the Frederick County champion trees to the website for recognition.

3. Media

1. Nature Notes: Jim and Kerrie are working to reinvigorate this initiative. Kerrie would like to write and submit one per month to the FNP, with one member taking a month every month on a rotating basis. It was voted unanimously that Kerrie be head of this subcommittee. Kerrie will send out a sign up sheet for following months.
2. Website: Jim has updated the main page and NRCC page on our website.
3. Social Media: We continue to grow our FB & IG presence.

Annual Work Plan

The AWP has been finalized. The board voted to approve the current version of the AWP and it was passed unanimously. It has been sent to MFS leadership. Jim, being chair, will assume a roll as part of the regional board. Tom also volunteered to be the second member for the regional board.

Bylaws

Bylaws were briefly discussed. One concern brought up was the use of the current logo. We will get clarification at the statewide meeting in a few weeks. Also discussed was the need to close out the current bank account and remove Dakota from the account. A new EIN will be needed for the bank account, which we will get from Dawn. A regional training session with Anna was suggested, for ongoing transition.

NRCC

We have received our first NRCC application. Jim will reach out to set up a time to interview the candidate. Dave Barrow's grandson was suggested as a potential candidate as well. We will plan to advertise for NRCC at various green fests throughout the next two months. Chuck mentioned that he left FFA / Ag Advisors know about NRCC also.



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New Business

Chuck mentioned that the PA wood trailer will be in Waynesboro on April 25th from 11am – 4pm if any member wanted to check it out in advance of the Frederick Fair later in September. The location of the event will be at the Buttonwood Nature Center – 10356 Amsterdam Road, Waynesboro, PA 17268.

Kerrie ask that Dakota could start sending the agenda for the meetings out a few days before the meeting so that she can better prepare for the topics being discussed.