



Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board

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Minutes of the Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board Meeting June 5, 2023

Call To Order:

The Garrett County Forestry Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Monday June 5, 2023 at Mt. Nebo. Those Board members in attendance were: Mike Minnick, Mike Kozier, Mike Ferguson, Bill Buckel, Bill Aiken, Will Williams, Fred Eggleston, Siera Wigfield, John Bambacus, Ken Fisher and Melissa Nash. Also in attendance was Annie Martin.

The agenda was approved with motion by Fred and 2nd by Mike K.

Special guest and scholarship recipient Annie Martin was introduced. She was presented with her \$500 award from the Board for continuing her studies at Garrett College.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved following a motion by Siera and 2nd by Mike K.

Bill Buckel read the treasurer's report. We deposited 2 student deposits for NRCC and made \$95 on the raffle from the plant festival. Purchases included the chainsaw and raffle tickets.

Forestry Board	\$5,663.21
MUCFC	\$0
NRCC	\$4,187.26
Scholarship	\$2,944.07

A motion to accept the report was made by Fred and 2nd by Will.

Volunteer Hours:

The Board's hours since the last meeting were as follows:

Ken – 8	Mike K – 5	Mike F. – 12
Mike M. – 16	Fred – 3	Derek – no report
Larry – no report	Will – 10	John – 3
Bill B. – 5	Bill A. – 7	Siera - 8

TOTAL 69 hrs

OLD BUSINESS:

Watershed

A public meeting on the Arrowhead Cove dredging project was recently held. Ken attended. Siera said the work is scheduled to begin this fall. She would like to look at more mitigation upstream to reduce sediment in the cove. Will said he has a 30 minute presentation about regenerative stormwater management practices he would like to give at a meeting in the fall.

Siera will be working on revitalizing the Yough Watershed Advisory Committee.

NRCC

We have received the 5th student's deposit so all are now confirmed. We have had lots of assistance from various organizations this year. Western MD RC&D (\$650), Becoming an Outdoorswoman (\$650), Allegany Forestry Board (\$500), Oakland Civic Club (\$400), Baltimore City general donation to NRCC tuition (\$250), NRCC Committee (\$100). Some of these were received locally, while others were sent through the Foundation. Our remaining balance due for the 5 students will be \$1,750. Bill B. and Melissa will get the check out this week.

Melissa shared the NRCC schedule, which is also posted on the website. Board members are welcome to visit – just check in when you arrive.

<https://www.marylandforestryfoundation.org/downloads/NRCCCurriculum.2023.pdf>

We will likely need 6-7 people to serve as landowners for the students on Friday of NRCC. We will have a meeting at 9am and the time slot for landowners begins at 11am. Melissa has invited the Allegany Board to help with this as well.

State Envirothon

Will reported the state committee selected training and testing locations during their recent meeting. Students will arrive at the 4-H Center on Thursday June 15 at noon, with training sessions to occur that afternoon. Testing will begin at 8am on June 16. Bernie and Champ from the Allegany Board will also be assisting. Board members are welcome to observe either day. Check in at the lodge hall when you arrive.

Native Plant Festival

It was a rainy day, but the event was well attended (estimated 75 people stopped by our table). We made \$95 on the raffle of trees and mushroom logs. All prizes were picked up. Thanks to Mike M., Will, Ken, Melissa and Katherine Phillips (tree planting specialist) for assisting with the table.

Big Tree

Melissa reported all measured trees have been submitted and updated on our website. The waiver for the yellow poplar was approved. We currently have 29 total trees listed as county champions. Four of those are also state champions. There was no update on additional logo designs.

Raffle for NRCC

Mike M. spoke with Dave at Green Acres Garden Center and he graciously gave us 50% off an electric chainsaw. We will sell tickets through the end of the fair. Tickets are \$5/each)

Trail Grants

Siera has applied for multiple grants for trail projects including a possible pedestrian bridge north of Friendsville, Meadow Mountain trail to Deep Creek Lake State Park, Loch Lynn wetland boardwalk re-decking & ADA accessibility, Bloomington park walking trail, Loch Lynn to Oakland feasibility study and Oakland to Herrington Manor feasibility study.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mountain Loggers

Next meeting is June 13th at 6pm at Pine Lodge.

American Chestnut

Potomac Edison is willing to help us with a bucket truck if we want to try pollinating trees again. Melissa and Mike K. will check trees later this month. Tentative pollination would be early July.

MALPF

Siera has approximately 20 easement applications this year.

Tree Planting

Melissa shared information on several urban tree planting programs. She, Siera and Katherine recently met to visit possible planting project sites in Oakland, Deer Park and Bloomington. Fred said he knows of a church camp property in McHenry who may be interested.

Fair Schedule

Melissa shared a draft schedule. We will try to man the booth on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. She has confirmed with Oakland Rotary on the fry booth for Tuesday day shift. Photo judging will be the Sunday at the start of the fair. We will plan on giving away 6-9 trees throughout the week and will also pull the chainsaw winner that Saturday. Ideas for information to include were Smokey swag, Big Tree, tree planting programs (invite Katherine if she is available/interested in any days). We will try to have 2-3 people per shift (2-3 hour shifts).

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be July 10th at 9am at Mt. Nebo.

Melissa Nash
Secretary

Upcoming Dates

June 13 – Mountain Loggers

June 15-16 – State Envirothon @ 4-H Center

July 10 – next regular meeting

July 28 – Meeting at NRCC (9am), Serve as landowners (11am), Set up fair booth (tentatively 1:30)

July 30 – Photo contest judging 1pm

August 1 – Rotary fry booth (approx. 10am-5pm), man Forestry Board booth (5pm-9pm)

August 3 – Man Forestry Board booth (5pm-9pm)

August 4 – 4-H Awards Ceremony (time TBD), Man Forestry Board booth (5pm-9pm)

August 5 – Man Forestry Board booth (12pm-9pm), Chainsaw raffle drawing

No regular August meeting