



## Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board

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### Minutes of the Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board Meeting June 3, 2024

#### Call To Order:

The Garrett County Forestry Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Monday June 3, 2024 at the Mountain Fresh Pavilion. Those Board members in attendance either in person or virtually were: Mike Minnick, Mike Kozier, Bill Buckel, Will Williams, John Bambacus, Fred Eggleston, Siera Wigfield and Melissa Nash. Also in attendance was Molly Ramsey, Watershed Coordinator and scholarship recipients Zobiana Dillsworth and Isabel Knapp.

The agenda was approved with motion by Fred and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John.

Scholarships of \$500 each were presented to Zobiana and Isabel.

Molly was introduced as the new Garrett County Watershed Coordinator.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved following a motion by Fred and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Will.

Bill B. read the treasurer's report. We refunded leftover MUCFC funds to the MD Forestry Foundation, paid our booth fee for the fair, and sent in NRCC fees for 3 students.

Forestry Board	\$3,109.83
MUCFC	\$0.01 (from the test deposit to set up direct payment)
NRCC	\$2,467.26
Scholarship	\$1,494.07

The report was accepted following a motion made by Fred and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Siera.

#### Volunteer Hours:

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

Ken – no report	Mike K – 4	Mike F. – no report
Mike M. – 12	Fred – 3	Derek – (3)
Larry – no report	Will – 10	John – 6
Bill B. – 8	Bill A. – no report	Siera – 3

**TOTAL 49 hrs**

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Watershed**

This was Molly's first day on the job. Her background is a bachelors degree in biology and a masters degree in environmental science. She has previously worked on a stream ecology project at Mill Run and has worked with communities to understand their experience with flood events.

Arrowhead cove SAV plantings are complete.

Siera has received an ARC trails planning grant to find a Oakland to Herrington Manor route as well as an Oakland to Rt 135 route. John asked how much the existing trails are advertised. Discussion included Garrett Trails website, maps available on park/state forest websites and in offices, Deep Creek Lake Adventure Bureau, use of apps like AllTrails and guided events by parks. Further discussion included possibly holding a fall foliage hike or tree scavenger hunt. The group agreed it was difficult to find centralized information on trails.

Siera has also applied for some trail money for an intermediate bike trail at Fork Run. She should hear if that has been funded by the fall.

### **NRCC**

We have a 4<sup>th</sup> applicant and Melissa will work with Mike K and Will to set up an interview. Will reported the camp is having trouble finding night staff again.

### **Mt. Loggers**

The group will meet June 11<sup>th</sup>. The golf tournament is June 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be a WVU Forestry day camp July 15-19. Cost is \$120/student. Anyone wanting to join Mt. Loggers, dues are being collected. Cost is \$20/year.

### **Forestry Board Summit**

Bill B. will present any comments from the board.

Concerns already listed include

- complete lack of legislative updates in 2024
- lack of timber market in Maryland's western region and the tri-state area as a whole. There has been much talk of woody biomass but little action or market development
- other market possibilities such as cardboard production were suggested
- Swallow Falls bridge project is still a concern with regard to old growth hemlock
- there is an overall lack of information being sent out & those who are unable to attend meetings do not get any follow up information

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Chestnut**

TACF will complete maintenance on the Pea Patch orchard June 18<sup>th</sup>. They have planted additional trees there since our initial planting in 2019. We may start seeing female flowers soon.

### **Fair**

Friday 7/26 – act as landowners for NRCC in AM, set up fair booth in PM

Sunday 7/28 – 1pm 4-H photo judging

Tuesday 7/30 – Rotary Fry booth. John, Will, Melissa, Mike M. and Bill B. are able to help with fries. Mike K will man the info booth and sell calendars.

Thursday 8/1-Saturday 8/3 – Man booth from 2-8pm each day if possible.

Sunday 8/4 – 11am remove booth

Melissa advised she will not be available on Saturday 8/3 or on Sunday 8/4 for booth tear down.

### **Smokey Bear Reading Challenge**

Winners will be drawn this week once forms have been centralized from the library branches.

### **Big Tree**

Derek and Bill B. have some new nominations we will need to measure (red pine, black birch, serviceberry).

Melissa Nash  
Secretary

### **Upcoming Dates**

July 21-27 – NRCC

July 26 – Meeting at Hickory, memorial tree planting, act as landowners

July 28-August 3 – Garrett County Fair

No regular meeting in August

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