

FB Minutes May 9, 2023

Jim Harris called mtg to order –1:37 pm

The board approved the minutes from the April 11 mtg, following one change which Joli requested.

(The change comes under New Business, Joli's comments.

She requested that the words "cross sections" replace the word "cookies" re: the champion Linden Oak tree.)

Treasurers Report: Joli

--The bus company did the tour pro bono = the bill was \$0.

Joli gave the tree tour bus driver a \$40.00 tip.

--FB is sending 5 students to NRCC, with the FB paying for 3, Ashton Manor for 1, IWL for 1.

An additional 6th student Lila Gottenburg from Winston Churchill HS was being interviewed on May 10, and she looks very promising... "The Foundation" will pay for the 6th per Joli—(I am sorry that I didn't ask Joli after the meeting what she meant by this—Jim Harris, can you help me out here so that Chris can write the minutes correctly??)

--Joli asked for and received permission to pay Air Card \$240.00 for the Website work.

--the current bank balance is\$6,740.52.

(I will take a picture of Joli's Bank Balance sheet and email it to you for the details).

Chairs Report: Jim

--Jim reiterated that we will most likely be sending 6 students this year to NRCC.

--We had general agreement from all quarters that the Tree Tour was a success.

Praise for the bus driver/bus company, and thanks to Dan Landry for providing lunch.

Legislative Report: Laura

Laura discussed the 2 major Forestry Bills (MD state and Montgomery County) that have been worked on this past year.

Montgomery County bill –2 years of work

--Working towards No Net Loss

--diligence to involve every sector

--figuring out options for best results

--concern is that this is No Net Loss only for FCA properties, not forest outside the jurisdiction of the FCA. There is a huge amount of redevelopment going on (especially down county) where we are losing our forest ("Mc Mansionization"). Lot by lot, massive areas are going from a small older home surrounded by trees and woods, to a single huge home with canopy at most and often only grass.

--Per Laura, our Montgomery Cty law isn't perfect, but it's getting closer. The developer will have to mitigate more, and the emphasis is to plant onsite or in the watershed. There will be higher rates of planting, so we get more mitigation for the trees that are lost.

--Forest Banking Options are back in = allowed again, which is a good thing.

--Regarding the Tree Canopy Law, Laura pointed out that it would be a good idea to have the FB weigh in with support of that.

DNR Report (Dan, Laura)

No formal report as no DNR employees were present, however various Board members contributed.

Comments made that the new governor made some changes with appointed positions and some long time employees --including Ken Jolly(sp) and Marion Honey (sp?)-- were asked to retire.

Tree Planting: (Jim, Laura)

The most recent tree planting was great. Laura Miller had many employees helping, so with the FB members and the County employees onsite, trees were planted and educational information was provided in an organized way. Laura would like the FB members to try and cover each planting in a similar manor – basic idea = many hands make light work.

Environmental Planning has applied for a grant to plant at 41 schools.

New Business

Joli—

=MNCPPC wants to run it's own Champion Tree Tour. An employee of Holly Thomas has been in communication with Joli about this.

=MD Big Tree program is working on a new logo. Joli will provide various draft logos for us to vote on.

=Joli shared her Award Map- a framed copy of a Fred Bessly map from the 1915 MD forest atlas.

=Norm is working on ID badges and a FB marketing brochure.

Laura—

=reiterated that she would like Board members to attend as many tree plantings as it possible, for partnership purposes among other things

Dan:

=brought copies of the NRCC awards for top students for the Board members to see, and for Jim Harris to sign. He also passed around the Natural History books which will be handed out as prizes to top students.

Eddie:

=talked about the importance of promoting our work/goals/activities. He handed out copies of a "Rack Card" mockup he had put together to show how simple yet effective it could be.

Vince:

=had a development question re: a situation where a formerly 1 house lot was turned into 18 houses. What laws protect a possible significant or specimen tree?

Joe:

=a fringe tree has been planted for Laurie Jenkins

=a Franklinia has been planted for Linda Pepe. Joe would like a plaque put in the ground by Linda's tree which acknowledges her many contributions over the years.

Brett was not able to attend the meeting, but he sent the following information to Jim Harris and Chris Barger for the record: Tree Maintenance completed this year's planting program and MCDOT's total was 2,293 trees in the right-of-way. MCDOT gave away 500 seeding/whips at Green Fest (day 2) this year. MCDOT had a few hundred seedlings left over and gave them to some Community Associations. MCDOT is working with Casey Tree Foundation on another grant (MCDOT currently has one with Casey and Chesapeake Bay Trust) to possibly plant up to another 500 trees per year for the next 3-4 years (MCDOT is hoping for 500 but not sure if that many will be received).

The next meeting will be June 12.

The Board will not meet in July or August, with the following meeting being on 9/11.

Meeting adjourned by Jim at 3:14 pm

In Attendance:

Jim Harris

Joli McCathran

Eddie F

Lee D

Joe H

Laura M

Vince F

Carole B

Dan L