

WASHINGTON COUNTY FORESTRY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
October 2, 2024

Present: Greg Bartles, Don Grove, Linda Grove, Judy Niedzielski, and Aaron Cook. Guest: Christopher Boggs, Washington County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board

Ag Advisory Board Discussion – Christopher Boggs, Washington County Rural Preservation Administrator represented the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board at the meeting. Both boards have a statutory duty to meet at least annually to work cooperatively to encourage the promotion and retention of farmland and woodland in the County. Christopher talked about easement programs and forest conservation as it pertains to Washington County.

Collaborative Workshop – There are about 15 registrations, not counting the members of the Walnut Council or the Forestry Boards. The Frederick Board will purchase some light refreshments. Doug can emcee following the outline that the Frederick Board chair shared with Judy. Aaron will arrive early to help set up the room, carpooling from Greg's place was discussed. Please help with sign in and CEU sheets the day of the event. Reminder it is Friday, October 11 from 10:30-2:45

Other Business – Leitersburg Ruritan reached out about more tree planting this fall. Aaron does not have trees, but will work with the Ruritan to plan a spring tree planting and apply for funding, if needed. This would be the 3rd planting with the Ruritan, becoming good partners.

The Hagerstown Flower & Garden Show is March 15 & 16 next spring. Aaron wanted to gauge interest in continuing to participate in this event. The board will continue to participate, Aaron will mail in the registration form and order the tree seedlings we will give out.

The Herald-Mail is interested in a Big Tree story next year to highlight the anniversary of the program. Aaron connected the reporter with Doug so that permissions can be obtained to interview private big tree owners.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3 PM.

The next regular business meeting is at 2:00 PM, November 14, 2024