

**Minutes**  
**Allegheny County Forestry Board**  
**March 16, 2022 from 9:00am – 11:30pm**  
**Virtual – Google Meets**  
**To promote the stewardship, conservation and**  
**sustainable use of forest resources in Allegheny County**

**Call to Order:**

**Chairman's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

- The meeting was called to order by Secretary Dan Hedderick at 9:04 am on March 16, 2022. Attendees included all members: **Dennis Bittinger, Sherry Frick, Tom Mathews, Brad Metzger, Steve Resh, Juls Wood, Bernie Zlomek and Dan Hedderick**
- Not in attendance: **Francis Zumbrun, Marie Miller, Ken Roberts**
- Special Guest: Kenneth Jolly, Associate Director MD DNR Forest Service, Sarah Hall-Bagdonas Senior Forestry Manager FFCP American Forest Foundation and Ethan Belair Natural Climate Solutions Forester The Nature Conservancy
- **Note:** Special thank you to **Brad Metzger** for the Google Meets link!

**Goals and Annual Work Plan for the Board to meet for 2022**  
**(Covid-19 may affect outcome):**

- **Started** Develop the 2022 Goals and Annual Work Plan
- **Started** Raise funds to support Allegheny County Forestry Board
- Bring in new members
- **Started** Hold 6 local Forestry Board meetings and 4 special events
- **Started** Complete all financial disclosure forms
- **Started** Sign all Volunteer Forms
- **Started** Find, interview, approve and financially support 2 students for NRCC
- **Started** Promote outreach for NRCC
- Support NRCC at camp with volunteers
- Facilitate the Forestry portion of the Envirothon
- Organize, plan and co-sponsor with Allegheny Arts Council the photo contest at the Allegheny County Fair
- **Started** Facilitate 2 PLT Workshops
- **Started** Facilitate Heritage Legacy Tree Program
- **Started** Support Big Tree Program
- Support Cumberland Watershed Plan Implementation
- Facilitate both webpage and Facebook links and keep them active and adaptive
- Support 5 Million Tree Initiative
- **Started** Support the Family Forest Carbon Program
- **Started** Look into new programs with guest speakers to keep members educated on what is new

**Note:** Goals will be listed for the Forestry Board to track their success and act as a reminder of needed accomplishments for the 2022 Annual Work Plan. The word "accomplished" will be placed in the front of each goal once it has been completed.

**Minutes Reviewed:**

**Dan** explained that minutes from January had already been approved and sent in for the public record. He asked if there was any discussion about approved minutes and there was none.

(Motion)

**Bernie** made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by **Brad** and all were in favor.

### **Financial Activities:**

**Bernie** reported that we received the \$100 donation from **Francis Zumbrun** and that was used to support the Big Tree Program donation we made to the Forestry Board Foundation. **Bernie** went over the PLT accounting for the last event at FSU and all lines up well. He proceeded to ask the Board to support \$1000 purchase of PLT books, \$1000 purchase of PLT poster, \$25 for facilitator lunches and \$25 for a student PLT book with a hardship case for a total of \$2,050. This request is already covered by donations the Board has received from other supports.

(Motion)

**Brad** made a motion to support the \$2,050 PLT purchases for future events seconded by **Tom** and all were in favor.

### **NRCC:**

**Dan** reported that we have 1 student from Allegany County that has applied. The interview will be conducted by **Juls Wood, Steve Resh** and **Dan Hedderick** on Friday March 18. Assuming all goes well **Dan** and **Bernie** stand ready to send a tuition check for the student.

**Steve** reported that NRCC already has 29 student applicants for 2022.

**Update:** Student has been approved by the interview panel including **Juls, Steve** and **Dan**. **Bernie** and **Dan** signed the check for \$450, and the check has been sent in. Family also provided a check for the \$125 activity fee.

### **PLT:**

**Bernie** reported that the PLT workshop went very well. It was their 83rd workshop and 30th year at FSU.

### **Family Forest Carbon Program (FFCP):**

**Dan** introduced our guests being **Kenneth Jolly, Sarah Hall-Bagdonas, Ethan Belair**

**Ethan** opened with a 30-minute presentation designed for a professional group and it gave us good insight into the Family Forest Carbon Project and how the FIA data is used. **Sarah** chimed in as the day continued.

There was a total of 10 questions asked to both **Sarah** and **Ethan** from **Sherry, Dennis, Dan, Juls, Steve, Tom** and **Kenneth**.

We found out that two of the limitations were plantation of softwoods and basal area reduction of only 25%. We have a good understanding that not every program will work well on every acre and that the Family Forest Carbon Project are making changes and adjustments all the time as the program is rolled out to more and more landowners, different entities, and different forest types. So not only are the Forestry Board and DNR foresters learning about how this works, the FFCP is adjusting as time moves forward. The carbon markets and programs are new to the United States, and we are happy to be part of the solution in bringing these new markets and opportunities to our forest landowners.

**Steve Resh** suggested we should continue discussions about bring this information to our forest landowners in some type of outreach program. The decision was made to work on this idea at a regular meeting on April 20. Outside location to be determined.

### Upcoming Events:

- Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting Wednesday, April 20
- Envirothon Event Wednesday, April 27

### Attended Events: (note, members need to attend at least 50% of yearly meetings to be in good standing)

- **January 19, 2022** - Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Google Meets: **Dennis Bittinger, Sherry Frick, Tom Mathews, Brad Metzger, Marie Miller, Steve Resh, Ken Roberts, Juls Wood, Bernie Zlomek, Francis Zumbrun and Dan Hedderick** (All members attended)
- **February 25, 2022** - PLT Workshop: **Sherry Frick, Bernie Zlomek and Francis Zumbrun**
- **March 3, 2022** – Statewide Forestry Board meeting: **Bernie Zlomek, Francis Zumbrun and Dan Hedderick**
- **March 16, 2022** - Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Google Meets: **Dennis Bittinger, Sherry Frick, Tom Mathews, Brad Metzger, Steve Resh, Juls Wood, Bernie Zlomek and Dan Hedderick**