

WASHINGTON COUNTY FORESTRY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
June 7, 2023

Present: Judy Niedzielski, Don Grove, Linda Grove, Greg Bartles, and Aaron Cook. Guest: Kate Bucco

Big Tree – Doug was in Vermont, but sent his update via email and through Don & Linda. New trees measured: table mountain pine, European larch, ginkgo. One tree deceased, state champion hackberry. Remeasured trees: chinkapin oak, pin oak, Norway spruce, two other oaks. To do list: red maple, sycamore, plus another in Cascade. Thanks to Doug, Don, and Linda for all of their hard work and effort with our big trees. Kate brought up an American chestnut on San Mar Road, Aaron explained how the backcross and genetic research programs have been going. Judy shared a spot on Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road that has some older Arbor Day handout trees growing on it.

Display pictures/ updates – Several board members brought electronic files with pictures from events and shared with Aaron. The goal is to update pictures for the stand alone display, and work on creating mock ups of stand up banner stands. Kate had some good input on content of pictures (before and after, to demonstrate progress or purpose to the event). Aaron will try to have content ready for the September meeting, and will continue to figure out who can print and help design banner stands (most economically).

Other Business – Judy passed around a list to update contact information for members. Aaron relayed that the pesticide refresher generated a little extra income after expenses and that the Frederick and Washington Boards would be splitting the difference. The spotted lanternfly workshop is still on hold, but Aaron thinks if we deviate from the Friday afternoon option, we can use the County facility on Sharpsburg Pike. The speakers are all somewhat confirmed, so picking a mid-week date that works for the venue may be the route to take. Aaron will check with the County on that. This led to discussion about traps. Judy brought in an article from the local paper that had instructions on how to build a lanternfly trap. Greg asked about the Smokey Bear costume, Aaron will ask fire staff and added that MFS recently put on a train the trainer event in Boonsboro for Smokey costume use. Kate is interested in joining, Aaron will send the paperwork to her.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 4 PM.

The next regular business meeting will be at 2:00 PM, September 6, 2023, at the Maryland Conservation Agency Museum (Greg's place). Enjoy your Summer!