

**Minutes**  
**Allegheny County Forestry Board**  
**October 27, 2021 from 10:00am – 1:00pm**  
**Allegheny Project Garage**  
**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 Chairman Ken Roberts at 10:20 am on October 27, 2021. Attendees included: **Bernie Zlomek, Francis Zumbrun, Tom Mathews, Dennis Bittinger, Steve Resh, Juls Wood, Ken Roberts and Dan Hedderick**
- Not in Attendance: **Marie Miller, Sherry Frick, and Brad Metzger**
- Special Guest: **Matt Voithofer & Heather Voithofer**
- Lunch Guests: **Barb Stevens, Adam Miller and Julie Conway**
- **Note:** Special thank you to **Marie** for sending baked beans and pastries via Adam even though you could not attend.

**Goals and Annual Work Plan for the Board to meet for 2021**  
**(Covid-19 may affect outcome):**

- **Completed** Develop the 2021 Goals and Annual Work Plan
- **Completed** Raise funds to support Allegheny County Forestry Board
- **Completed** Review positions held by the Board members
- **Discussion have accrued** Bring in new members
- **Started (7 meeting & 4 events)** Hold 8 local Forestry Board meetings and 4 special events
- **Completed** Complete all financial disclosure forms
- **Completed** Sign all Volunteer Forms
- **Donation made for another student in Garrett County** Find, interview, approve and financially support 2 students for NRCC
- **Completed** Promote outreach for NRCC
- **Completed** Support NRCC at camp with volunteers
- **Training Completed by MD DNR FS, main event cancelled for Covid-19** Facilitate the Forestry portion of the Envirothon
- **Completed** Organize, plan and co-sponsor with Allegheny Arts Council the photo contest at the Allegheny County Fair
- **Completed 1 workshop the other workshop was canceled for Covid-19** Facilitate 2 PLT Workshops
- **Completed** Facilitate Heritage Legacy Tree Program
- **Completed** Support Big Tree Program
- **Completed** Support Cumberland Watershed Plan Implementation
- **On Hold County Staff Change** Support County and State in their efforts to implement land preservation programs
- **Completed** Facilitate both webpage and Facebook links and keep them active and adaptive
- **Completed** 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 2021 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 August 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.

### **Financial Activities:**

**Bernie** asked about the Allegany Art Council providing the \$87.50 towards the photo contest and **Tom** said he will follow through and ask for a check. Tape measure for Big Tree Program was purchased locally at \$20.67. **Bernie** reported that the cost of an average PLT workshop is about \$450.

(Motion)

**Ken** motioned to purchase up to \$1,500 worth of PLT books, materials and supplies for upcoming events seconded by **Dennis** and all were in favor.

(Motion)

**Bernie** motioned to cover the cost of a PLT facilitator book for **Sherry Frick** for \$25 if needed seconded by **Tom** and all were in favor.

### **Liberty Tree:**

**Francis** reported that he once again collected seed from the Liberty tree at Saint John's College in Annapolis and had a funny story to tell where he had to show he had the approval to do that. Only 30 seeds germinated from what he collected last year and he has another 200 requests. He is hoping for better germination. There was a general discussion about raising the price beyond the \$20 for sales and making sure **Francis** has his cost covered instead of him donating supplies.

**Francis** also obtained another tree cookie from a 250 to 300 year old tree, once again in LaVale along the National Road. These trees date back prior to the American Revolution, and he says there are only 2 similar trees left in the area. **Matt** is interested in capturing what is left for the Big Tree record.

### **Big Tree Program:**

**Matt** talked with the group again about his involvement and a few more trees have been added to the list.

**Dan** told the group that he has secured an article to be written about the Big Tree Program in a local publication called Mountain Discoveries. He has provided contact information to the magazine for **John Bennett, Francis Zumbrun, Matt Volithofer** and himself. Mountain Discoveries is hoping to write the article over the winter and have the story in the spring/summer issue.

### **MD Forest Service Updates:**

**Dan** reported as of this moment the Maryland Forest Service remains open and operating as normal for field offices with the Annapolis office not quite back to normal status.

Acting State Forester position has been rotated from **Kenneth Jolly** to **Anne Hairston Strang** since acting status is limited to one year. Rotations will continue until such a time that the state does a nationwide search and hold interviews for the position to be filled. Urban Program – **Becky Wilson** will retire in November. Fire Program – **Randy Kamp** will retire end of the year. Frederick/Washington Project – **Mike Kay** will retire end of the year.

### **Envirothon**

**Adam** had provided training for upcoming spring activities and the Board is still interested in being involved.

### **Letter to Cumberland Mayor**

**Tom** and **Ken** just followed up to say a letter was completed by **Steve**, signed by **Ken** and mailed to the Mayor praising the City on the management of the Cumberland watershed property.

## Board Positions for Calendar 2022

**Ken** talked about his status for 2022 and after a long discussion he will stay on as Chairman with help from others while working closely with **Dan**. **Bernie** will stay on as Treasurer.

## Reappointment Certification

**Ken** handed out 6 reappointment certificates to members that were needed to be reappointed. **Dan** said there will be more for 2022.

## Tour & Explanation of Project Fire Equipment

**Adam Miller**, Forester, and **Julie Conway**, Forest Ranger, of Allegany Project staff took the Board on a tour of fire equipment staged at Allegany Project including UTV, ATV, Type 6 and Type 7 Engines as well as fire tool cache trailer. A general discussion about Fire Program was also held by all referencing current and past fire activity.



## Lunch

A cookout social was had by all, including office staff, and lunch was provided by the individual board members.

## Upcoming Events:

- Next meeting State-wide Forestry Board Meeting Thursday, November 4 via Google Meet. See **Ann Gilbert's** email as well as information **Dan** provided to attend.

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

- **January 26, 2021** - Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Webex: **Tom Mathews, Bernie Zlomek, Sherry Frick, Juls Wood, Dennis Bittinger, Steve Resh, Francis Zumbrun and Dan Hedderick**
- **March 17, 2021** - Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Webex: **Tom Mathews, Bernie Zlomek, Sherry Frick, Dennis Bittinger, Steve Resh, Francis Zumbrun, Brad Metzger, Marie Miller and Dan Hedderick**
- **April 27, 2021** - Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Webex: **Bernie Zlomek, Sherry Frick, Francis Zumbrun, Juls Wood, Ken Roberts, and Dan Hedderick**
- **June 2, 2021**- Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting via Webex: **Bernie Zlomek, Sherry Frick, Francis Zumbrun, Tom Mathews, Dennis Bittinger, Ken Roberts, Brad Metzger and Dan Hedderick**
- **July 19, 2021** – Allegany County Fair Photo Judging: **Brad Metzger, Tom Mathews, Bernie Zlomek, Dennis Bittinger, Juls Wood and Sherry Frick**
- **July 25 to 31** – Natural Resources Career Camp: **Steve Resh, Brad Metzger and Juls Wood**
- **August 18, 2021** - Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting: **Tom Mathews, Bernie Zlomek, Dennis Bittinger, Steve Resh, Francis Zumbrun, Brad Metzger and Dan Hedderick**
- **October 18, 2021** – **Francis Zumbrun** collected seed from Liberty Tree at Saint Johns College.
- **October 22, 2021** – **PLT Workshop** completed for 27 students from FSU & AC: **Bernie Zlomek, Champ Zumbrun, Marie Miller & Adam Miller**. Also, **Sherry Frick** attended as a student facilitator in training.
- **October 27, 2021** - Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting: **Tom Mathews, Bernie Zlomek, Dennis Bittinger, Steve Resh, Francis Zumbrun, Ken Roberts, Juls Wood and Dan Hedderick**
- **November 4, 2021** – State-wide Meeting: **Bernie Zlomek, Francis Zumbrun, Sherry Frick and Dan Hedderick**