

CARROLL COUNTY FORESTRY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, April 27, 2021

PLACE: Google Conference meeting

TIME: 5:00 PM

Due to the Coronavirus shutdown of state offices and to follow the state policy of social distancing, the Forestry Board conducted a remote business meeting via conference call using Google Meets.

- **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chris Spaur at 5:00 PM.
- **Attendance** - Chris Spaur, Laura O'Callaghan, Roland Fish, Steve McDaniel, Bryan Shumaker, Donna Davis (Secretary).

Administration-

- **Review/Approval of March 2021 meeting minutes:** Motion to approve as submitted made by Laura O'Callaghan, seconded by Roland Fish and passed. To comply with the Maryland Public Information Act, the DNR Office of Communications and the Maryland Office of the Attorney General has advised that all Forestry Board minutes are public information and must be posted online. Board secretaries will forward minutes to Jack Perdue, for posting on a new DNR Forest Service webpage. The webpage will also contain a link to Forestry Board webpages. Board meeting announcements are posted on the DNR calendar of events.
- **Treasury Report:** Motion to approve the April 2021 CC Forestry Board Treasurer's Report as submitted made by Laura O'Callaghan, seconded by Roland Fish and passed.
 - Previous balance as of 2/26/21: \$5,147.89
 - 3/10 Withdraw (ordered new checks) \$30.05
 - 3/17 Deposit Stripe Transfer (BYB shelter kits purchase): \$56.02
 - 3/24 Deposit Stripe Transfer (BYB shelter kits purchase): \$44.75
 - Total withdraw: \$30.05
 - Total deposit: \$100.77
 - 5/31/21 Checking account statement balance: \$5,218.61
- **Ethics Filing:** Chris Spaur reminded Board members to submit their 2020 Ethics filing by April 30.
- **Vice-Chair Position:** Laura O'Callaghan volunteered to serve as Vice-chairperson. A vote by email request/nomination will be sent to all Board members by Chairman Chris Spaur.
- **Website:** Suggested revisions were submitted to Vic. Donna will review updates and work with Vic to put final touches on the website rebuild. Board members are asked to send website content material to Donna until Nicole returns from leave.
- The Board briefly discussed other social media options. The situation with changing the Face Book administrator has not yet been resolved. The Face Book page is currently not active. Bryan suggested using Twitter and Instagram.

Programs:

- **MD Big Tree:** Geary Schwemmer emailed a brief activity report with pictures to Board members. He assisted the State Big Tree Committee with measuring six trees in Charles County and Anne Arundel County. The Board expressed appreciation for all of Geary's work with the program.
- **2021 Arbor Day Poster Contest:** Bryan reported on the planting at Spring Garden ES. The school received 15 trees for winning first place in the state-wide contest. Bryan, Donna and staff from the CCPS STEM office helped the students plant Winterberry holly shrubs, red buds, and flowering dogwood trees. The students did a great job with the planting. Piney Ridge ES won first place state-wide in 2020 but was unable to plant their 15 trees due to the COVID shut-down. Bryan will supervise the planting at Piney Ridge on April 30 with the assistance of Forest Service Ranger Katie Garst. Bryan also reported a planting of 20 trees at Hampstead ES. Bryan would like to see the poster contest expanded and incorporated into the school curriculum.
- **NRCC 2021:** Five students have been interviewed and accepted by the Carroll Board. Three of the students were 2020 candidates and two are new applicants.
- **Wakefield Valley Park Development Plan:** A letter offering technical assistance from the Board was mailed the Director of Westminster Recreation and Parks on March 31. No reply has been received to date.
- **Chestnut Seedlings:** Due to an unforeseen seedling shortage, the Board only received 58 seedlings, which were distributed between Charlottes Quest and CCPS. Bryan briefly discussed the CCPS chestnut curriculum. Laura suggested having a college student develop a locally focused American chestnut video as an internship project. The video could cover the history of the chestnuts demise and efforts by many partners, including school groups, to bring the species back.
- **College Internship Project:** Laura sent letters to McDaniel and Carroll Community College. She received a very welcoming reply from CCC. The college has an internship program in place and is very interested in a proposal from the Board. The Board briefly discussed whether our internship could provide a stipend to the student. Discussion on projects for the intern is ongoing.

New Business: Bryan invited the Board to tour the CCPS green houses where 1,000 pollinator plants are growing. The Board feels it would be a great field trip opportunity.

Several topics were requested for the next agenda: Assisted migration/social media/fund-raising for student stipend/intern projects/field trip

6:30 PM: Motion to adjourn was made by Laura and seconded by Bryan. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 25 at 5PM (Google-Meets)

Submitted by DL Davis 4/30/2021