



Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board

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Minutes of the Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board Meeting December 12, 2022

Call To Order:

The Garrett County Forestry Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Monday December 12, 2022 at Perkins Restaurant. Those Board members in attendance were: Mike Minnick, Mike Kozier, Mike Ferguson, Bill Buckel, Bill Aiken, Larry Tichnell, Ken Fisher, Will Williams, Fred Eggleston and Melissa Nash. Also in attendance was Siera Wigfield.

The agenda was approved with motion by Will and 2nd by Fred.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved following a motion by Ken and 2nd by Larry.

Bill Buckel read the treasurer's report. We received and deposited the check from Oakland Rotary for working in the French fry booth during the fair. This added \$300 to our NRCC funds.

Forestry Board	\$5,080.02
MUCFC	\$0
NRCC	\$2,642.26
Workshop/Ed	\$543.11
Scholarship	\$1,763.05

A motion to accept the report was made by Ken & 2nd by Larry.

Volunteer Hours:

The Board's hours since the last meeting were as follows:

Ken – 4	Mike K – 3	Mike F. – 3
Mike M. – 22	Fred – 3	Derek – no report
Larry – 3	Will – 3	John – no report
Bill B. – 4	Bill A. – 3	

TOTAL 48 hrs

OLD BUSINESS:

2022 Year in Review/Look Ahead to 2023

Mike M. expressed his appreciation for everything the Board members have done in 2022. Both he and Melissa presented gifts of appreciation to the Board. 2022 accomplishments were as follows:

- total of 861 volunteer hours were accounted for in 2022
- total of approximately \$1700 raised for scholarships and NRCC
- financial support from Garrett County Commissioners, Oakland Rotary, Oakland Civic Club
- 7 reappointments & 1 new Board member
- public contact including visitation of over 1,500 between fair booth and 150th celebration
- awarded 2 scholarships (\$250 each) to local college students
- sponsored 1 NRCC student

Mike M. handed out a tentative 2023 schedule.

Waterwise

Siera shared updates on the status of the MOU and grant requests to fund a watershed coordinator position. The land preservation program is still popular. She is working on simplifying the application & evaluation process and possible rebranding.

County Budget Request

Mike M. and Melissa shared a draft of the request. A few suggestions for updates were made. Melissa will send out again for final Board review before sending to the county.

Membership Reappointments

Melissa distributed several membership reappointments. All appointments are now current.

SRSF Advisory Committee

Mike M. attended the recent meeting and gave a summary of the proposed FY2024 annual work plan. He or Melissa can provide printed copies if needed. A discussion on general forest management and available programs for landowners followed.

Mt. Loggers

The Mt. Loggers Christmas meeting will be held Dec 13th. RSVP's were due Dec 1st.

NRCC Recruiting

Melissa will send in the distribution request for approval from the schools. Information will be included in the next Leaflets newsletter.

Pens/Giveaways

Suggestions included better quality pens, carpenter pencils and possibly some other "nice" items in smaller quantities for select events (workshops, scholarship recipients,

etc). Please bring ideas & cost estimates to the January meeting or send to Mike M or Melissa.

NEW BUSINESS:

Big Tree

Melissa received a new Big Tree nomination for a white pine. She and Mike K. will coordinate measurement. There are also several county champion candidates in the Kitzmiller Botanical Garden. The Town was approved for their Heritage Area mini grant to replace arboretum signs & promote the 75th anniversary of the garden. Measurement & cataloguing of trees will also be a part of that project. Kevin Dodge has offered the help of his students. We will try to schedule a spring meeting in Kitzmiller with tree measurement to follow.

Library Display

The library has offered us April or October for 2023. After some discussion, the Board decided on April to promote Arbor Day and NRCC.

Poster Contest

The 2023 information is online with a deadline of January 20th. Local awards will be 1st - \$75, 2nd - \$50, 3rd - \$25.

Hickory Open House

Hickory will host their annual open house on Dec 20th from 5-7pm.

Mushroom Workshop

A discussion was held on possible locations, cost and size of the workshop as well as offering 1 or 2 sessions. After some discussion, we will try to schedule for April 22nd or 29th at Deep Creek and limit the size to 30 participants. Cost may need to increase with increase in supply cost. Other suggestions included offering more extra logs for purchase as the few we had last time sold quickly. Melissa will check on scheduling and we will revisit to make firm plans in January.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday January 9th at Mt. Nebo

Melissa Nash
Secretary

Upcoming Dates

December 20 – Hickory open house 5-7pm
January 9 – next regular meeting
January 20 – poster contest entries due