



Members: Matt Rescott, Amanda Cunningham, Megan Carr, Anne Gilbert, Frederic Chalfant, Sandy Sparks, Erik Dihle, Megan Carr, Jill Jonnes, Sarah Lord

Guests: Balt City Forestry staff, Chris Forster-Smith, Dan City Forester, Joli McCathran (Association President), Anne Hairston-Strang (MD Forest Service Deputy Director, Gabrielle, ? Young, Sam Sao, Chris Forster-Smith, Sean O'Mallie, Taylor ? BWB, Sylvester Myers

Start Time: 5:54pm

- **Special Guests**
  - **Anne Hairston-Strang**
    - Change coming with new administration and new Department Secretary Kurtz
      - Breaking down silos
    - Expanding capacity with Nature Conservancy for more prescribed burns
      - Drone technology and partners (including DE) to expand capacity for more rx burns in the future.
    - Dave Goshorn - new Deputy Secretary, most recently working on Bay with background in fisheries.
      - No new Assistance Secretary of Land yet.
    - Here to listen and see the diversity of the local boards.
      - See if there are needed resources
  - **Joli McCathern**
    - Great Big Tree people! Glad it is well covered.
    - Excited to learn more about what the board is doing.
      - Encourage people to come to annual meetings even if only for part of the day.
- Wood Utilization - new table at City Forestry, American Elm from a street tree in Baltimore removed due to BGE project. Salvaged through urban wood salvage project and local artist. With wooden legs! 4 large interlocking sections with live-edge wood legs.
- **Treasures report**
  - Ending 3/28/23
  - \$240.00 - expense 2-year website hosting, auto-renew
  - \$6,245.74 balance
  - No bills
  - NRCC donation - all boards were asked to contribute to NRCC funds in addition to scholarships. The contribution is for the general funds reserve.





- Have credit for \$450 with NRCC for a member that didn't come but had already been paid for.
- Conversion ended with the idea that we are no longer bringing in funds like we were before the pandemic. Group consensus that fundraising needs to have more attention.
  - Amanda proposed to send \$100 since that is what we gave to Big Tree
  - Sandy proposed \$250 - which passed
- Add fundraising to the April agenda and possible donations from corporate sponsors.
- **Jan/Feb Mins Vote**
  - Sandy says to vote to approve. Passes.
- **Working Groups Update**
  - **Engagement**
    - **Arbor Day Planting at neighborhood - Friday 4/28**
      - Moores Run
      - Group Bel Air Edison students attending
      - If you wish to volunteer let Erick and Amanda know.
      - Consensus there should be a timecapsule
    - **Arbor Day Planting at Hampden Elem Thursday 4/27**
      - Anne G bringing tree, tubes, ties and stakes
        - 6 oaks
      - Many classes worth of kids
      - If you wish to volunteer let Erik and Anne G know. Start 10-11. End 1:30
      - Director Moore is invited
    - **Cylburn Market Day - May 6th and 7th**
      - Unsure if we are having a table.
      - Will have tree giveaways and Big Tree tours for suggested donations to FB.
      - Sandy brought up Amanda's proposal from last month about a new setup for display tabling. Pop-up tent? Existing popup tent? Amanda will look into and bring options. Sandy will donate hers for use at Market Day and Herb Fest.
      - Looking for suggestions for a sturdy waterproof display material source. - send to Amanda.
      - Thayer idea - take photos and scan to create an image. Then have it printed on hard plastic with stakes in ground.
    - **Herb Fest at GFLP - May**
      - Will address next month





- **Youth**
  - **NRCC Applications for Summer 2023 [Matt]**
    - No current applications.
    - Matt sent info to and will follow up with the Community Engagement group at Rec and Parks, Green School contact, and the environmental club at City College.
  - **Interaction with current Youth Members [Sam]**
    - Sam will ask if they can help get the word out about the camp.
    - Met with Anika who asked a lot of questions about what was involved. Good conversation, would be good to give her something in writing and more concrete about what she would be doing/contributing.
    - Would like to encourage them to come to events to volunteer and interact with board members and the public.
- **Advocacy**
  - **Tree Ordinance Committee [Katie/Matt]**
    - Met recently, moving on the public tree bill. Actively working.
  - **Forest Conservation Legislation [List to be provided.]**
    - MD Forestry Education Fund - would provide funding for Forestry Foundation into the future. \$250,000+ per year for 2 years.
  - **Board relevancy via diversity [Erik]**
    - Encourage more diverse membership, POC, and women.
- **Seasonal Updates**
  - **Urban Forestry Division [Dan or staff]**
    - Tree Keeper training this week.
    - Creating a monthly working group for improvements to the curriculum.
    - Fred is presenting the Tree Keeper program at an international conference. Over 800 participants in at least one class in the last 10 years.
    - Weed Worriers going strong.
  - **Tree Baltimore [Sam]**
    - Trees coming
  - **Big Tree Program [Fred]**
    - Stoney Run event on Earth Day - need to measure a Spicebush
    - Thanks for voting for the Best Performance of a Big Tree.
- **Other Noteworthy Items [All]**
  - MUCFC Grants - <https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/programs/urban/mcfc.aspx>





BALTIMORE CITY  
FORESTRY BOARD

## Meeting Minutes

*March 28, 2023*

5:30-6:45 pm

- NEW MDOT grant with lots of funding, even for impervious removal!
- Sandy Sparks was awarded Lifetime Mel Award at the Association's Spring statewide meeting.
- Erik wants to brag at the Balt City Forestry Summer Meeting.

Adjourn: 7:10pm

