



CALVERT COUNTY FOREST CONSERVANCY DISTRICT BOARD

Autumn Phillips-Lewis, Chair *Charles Gustin, Vice-Chair* *Dawn Balinski, Treasurer*
Kenneth Johnston *Jill Lee* *David Hardy*

The Calvert County Forest Conservancy District Board met on Wednesday January 11, 2023 at the Phillips House in Prince Frederick, MD. Dawn Balinski, Autumn Phillips-Lewis, Chuck Gustin, Jill Lee and Brian Stupak attended. Guests included Amalia Pleake-Tamm, Virginia “Vi” Moss and her mother, Erin Moss. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Autumn Phillips-Lewis, Chairperson.

Treasurer’s Report

- Current balance - \$6,216.00
- Expenses
 - \$30.49 – Website renewal fee
 - \$139.06 – Volunteer appreciation dinner.
- Grant – the FY 24 County grant was submitted to the county government in November 2022.

NRCC Candidate Interview

- The Board interviewed Virginia “Vi” Moss, a freshman at Patuxent High School. Vi is involved with the PHS Envirothon team and has a great interest in natural resources and environmental issues. She has family members who work in the field and has a good grasp of the issues concerning natural resources in Calvert County. The Board approved and forwarded her application to NRCC.

Old Business

- Website future – Dawn has contacted the website designer who worked on several of the forestry board websites throughout the state. The web designer looked over the Calvert FB site and determined that it would be relatively easy to transfer the content to a new server. The designer would only be designing the site and it would be up to the Board to update the content. Dawn will get a cost-estimate of the design fees.

New Business

- FY22 Ethics filings – filings are due from all members by April 30, 2023. At this time, 1/3 of the Board has completed their filings.
- Green Expo seedlings – The Board will be ordering seedlings to giveaway at the Green Expo in 2023. Based on the success of potting the trees last year, 50 seedlings will be potted this year. Elderberry and gray dogwood (25 seedlings each) will be ordered.
- ADPC – the Board discussed updating the prize amounts to use up part of the budget surplus. Initially agreeing to double the gift card and prize values, it was not decided if the increase was a one-time only expense or would be made permanent. This issue will be settled by the Board soon. The Board judging night will also be in a new location this year, due to repairs at Battle Creek Nature Center. Alternative locations include Kings Landing Park, Harriet Brown Center and the ACLT offices.

- Envirothon T-shirts – The Board will again fund the purchase of t-shirts for the Envirothon. 65 students are estimated to be participating this year. In addition, the Board's long time vendor, Old Town Printing & Graphics has closed and the Board will need to find a new vendor. The shirt design will be rearranged with a large logo on the front and the sponsor's logos on the back. Lavender has been suggested as the shirt colors by the students.
- ACLT seminars – Autumn relayed a request from the American Chestnut Land Trust (ACLT) to forward advertisements e-mails for the ACLT's land preservation seminars to the Board's e-mail distribution list. The request was also made to the Forest Service (through Brian). Brian is researching whether the Forest Service can entertain such a request.

Notifications

- At the December 2022 Volunteer appreciation dinner, Board member Lisa Oswald informed the Board that she would be stepping down due to work commitments. The Board thanked her for her service and extended an open invitation to rejoin the Board in the future should her schedule allow it. Lisa joined the Board in 2016.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. The next regular meeting will be February 8, 2023 at the Phillips House in Prince Frederick. **The meeting will start at 6:00pm.**