

WASHINGTON COUNTY FORESTRY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
June 1, 2022

Present: Judy Niedzielski, Don Grove, Linda Grove, Greg Bartles, Marguerite Klein, Doug Inkley, and Aaron Cook.

Big Tree – Doug has completed some remeasurements on 3 cottonwoods. Two of them are dead, and one had significant die-back. Don & Linda helped measure a new northern red oak in Funkstown. It is a large tree, but does not qualify. They also measured a cottonwood, which is now the 3rd largest in the County. Doug has 4-5 more trees to remeasure and will reach out to the board for help once he can make contact with the owners. Thanks to everyone who is helping with this task.

Western Maryland Arborist & Tree Seminar review – Doug did an excellent job presenting the Big Tree Program, with a neat snippet on managing a sugarbush. Aaron rounded out his presentation with a video about NRCC and a short history of the Forestry Boards with a plug for those present to seek out their local Board, if so moved. Board members who were present did a great job helping with check-in and getting the facility set up for the event, many thanks to Judy, Mary Jo, Greg, and Doug. Greg, probably the best expert on DNR history, reinforced the history of the Boards as there was some misinformation in the video and from the audience. Aaron relayed that after expenses were paid, enough money for 2 future campers was brought in, and that it was a success in educating Licensed Tree Experts; all great things given our goals and mission.

Other Business – Aaron informed the board that Dakota Durcho and the Frederick board are moving forward with another joint workshop, this one about Spotted Lanternfly. Aaron looked at the availability of the Ag Education Center and suggested a date of September 30. He has a rough agenda framed out and will seek out speaker confirmations once the venue is reserved. Dakota will get CEUs to help diversify the audience and overall interest. The Frederick Board will lead on advertising, Aaron will try to get the word out in the Washington County outlets. Light refreshments will be on hand, and we will ask for a \$10 registration fee to make sure people show up when they RSVP. The goal is split the proceeds between the two Boards and help raise funds to continue to send students to camp and cover some updates to our display and uniforms. Aaron will keep us informed over our summer break.

Aaron looked into uniforms and there are a lot of variables to consider. He thought polo shirts or a vest would be the simplest way to go, but we are a small order and styles/ fit would vary. Greg and Judy suggested embroidered patches, which could be applied to whatever a member wanted to wear. Aaron will send a link to everyone with what he discovered, to mull it over during our break. We will revisit in the fall.

A save the date was sent out for a statewide meeting 10/27, 9-3, potentially in-person.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM, and went to look at the spotted lanternfly trap nearby. It was emptied during the meeting by MDA, but it was (unfortunately) quickly filling back up with young lanternflies.

The next regular business meeting will be at 2:00 PM, September 23, 2022, at the Maryland Conservation Agency Museum (Greg's place). Enjoy your Summer!