

Front Royal/Warren County Tree Stewards
Monthly Membership Meeting
February 23, 2026 6 PM

Stewards@treesFrontRoyal.org

1. Attendees

Nancy Kiel, Pres., Katie Carr, Vice Pres., Vicki Althaus & Margie Miller, Treas. Joan Grewe, Sec. Melody Hotek, Pres. Emeritus, Roy Unger, Joanne Ridings, Debbie Talley, Linda Bartett, Johnnie Goodwin, Bill & Diane Lacy, Emily Huttar, Andy Miller, Ron Perlik, Nancy Sabella, Andrea Lo

2. Welcome

Let's have a TrackItForward moment, many people said they log on at home and do not want to use the app.

Is everyone receiving the Steward emails? No, lists of missing people email added to the attendance roster

Able to access the minutes and finance reports on www.treesfrontroyal.org? YES

3. Minutes

Approval of minutes from January 24th meeting was unanimous.

4. Treasurer's report

(need to list the balances for the record. No questions. Report approved unanimously.

Finance Committee met with Lisa Schwartz and Louise LaBarca from the Beautification Committee to review the remaining funds located in the Community Foundation. The committee recommended liquidating the accounts.

A motion was made to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee to liquidate the Beautification money out of the Community

Foundation and move it to an investment fund so it could earn interest and still be accessible. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Getting organized for 2026:

- a. Monthly meeting dates – see attached
- b. 2026 Events Calendar – see attached
- c. Work session dates on the calendar
- d. Committee volunteers

6. Front Royal ACES Committee

(Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability) Justin

Proctor, chair. Melody and Nancy attended the recent meeting and reported on the projects.

Department of Forestry new grant opportunity for 2027 is open for new applications for future funding.

Justin asked us to run the Garden tour. After discussion the group felt it was not part of the FR WC Tree Steward mission and so will decline.

7. AAT Committee First meeting? Membership: Katie Carr, Emily Hutter, Carolyn Sinclair.

8. Work Session and Outreach and Event Set-up Committee:

Joan and Bill Grewe, Bill and Diane Lacy, Margie and Andy Miller. Tree Steward materials are located in the shed at the FR Public Works compound. A code is needed to access after hours. No key for the shed is needed.

Outreach events are on the Events Calendar, need help delivering setting up and dismantling table, tent supplies, etc. Work Sessions are

scheduled for first and fourth Saturdays of the month. Feb 28, March 7 and 28.

9. Spiritwear Order Two revised shirts, vest, Hat

10. See you on Saturday for a work session at the Front Royal Arboretum 10-12

Respectfully Submitted:
Joan Grewe, Secretary

Attachment

2026 Monthly Membership Meetings

(no meetings in July or December)

March 16

April 20

May 18

June 15

August 17

September 21

October 19

November 16

January 23, 2027 – Annual Saturday Brunch and Planning for 2027

2026 Events Calendar

Ask Stewart articles in on-line newspaper, WarrenCountyVA.com and our website (Katie) and our Facebook page (Vicki)

Front Royal Baskets -April, May

Taste for Books -April 25 (tickets on Sale March 15)

| Arbor Day/Earth Day/Lone Pine Day -April 26 (Booth duty, and planting two river birches at entrance to Main Street, giveaway of 500 native trees)

Biggest Trees in Front Royal/Warren County – June 6

Garden Fest – June 6

AAT Class – begins in September

Festival of Leaves – October 10th

Several tree plantings in and around Front Royal with ACES – November