

**Conservation Committee**  
**Draft Meeting Minutes**  
**January 11, 2021**

Present: Dawn Andrews, Gary Gulka, Roland Payne, Jr., Chris Duff, Cedric Alexander, Jim Wolynetz, Patricia Halloran, Bill Tecosky

Next Meeting: **February 8, 7:00 PM**

This meeting was held via tele-video conference in accordance with state open meeting statutes for electronic meetings.

Draft minutes of November 9 and December 11 approved with without changes.

Public Comment

None

Follow-up on Natural Communities Project

- It was agreed that natural communities report will be finalized without the inclusion of Appendix D map until all landowners consented to sharing I information regarding significant natural communities on their property.
- The report and recorded public presentation will be placed on the town web site. This will be publicized through Front Porch Forum
- Several hard copies of the report will be produced, so they can be placed at the library and available for public review.
- We will contact staff in the Natural Heritage Program to ask about funding possibilities to continue the project and seek out additional funding sources.

Plant Sale Update

Jim will continue to update the committee on the plant sale and plans to be in touch with the Plainfield Conservation Commission on next steps. Jim understands that plants have been ordered for this coming year's sale. The committee agreed that it is not necessary for Cabot to be part of the profit-sharing for this first year and will communicate this.

EV Charging Station

Jim provided an update on the EV charging stations proposal for the Willey Building. The Select Board is preparing a warned article for Town Meeting Day (Australian ballot) for voter approval.

Public Outreach

Chronicle articles are being prepared and finalized on the following: emerald ash borer, northern white cedar swamps and seepages, and EV charging station.

Priorities for Coming Year

We briefly reviewed the 2018 strategic plan and a list of 2021 Work Plan ideas that Gary drafted. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

A couple of additional ideas suggested for the coming year: Laying out trails to protect natural resources; spring ephemerals walk; workshop/webinar on invasives, both plants and insects such as spotted lantern fly, identifying and managing emerald ash borer

#### Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan

Roland provided an update on emerald ash borer. It has now been found in Cabot. Cabot needs to develop a management plan and Roland shared several that plans that have been developed in nearby towns. Roland is hoping that a Select Board member and road foreman can participate in development of a plan. The Conservation Committee should stay involved in this effort. Roland will report back with updates.