

Cabot Conservation Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2023

Present: Chris Duff, Cedric Alexander, Gary Gulka, Roland Payne, Jr., Dawn Andrews

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

Draft minutes of March 20 approved without changes.

Public Comment

No public comment

Project Updates

Conservation Plant Sale – We discussed the schedule for the plant sale activities later in the month:

Dig plants at Annie Reed's – no date yet, April 26, 27?

Volunteers: Rose, Cedric, Gary, Anne

East Hill Tree Farm pickup – Saturday, April 29, 1 pm

Volunteers: Rose, Roland, Cedric

3499 East Hill Rd, Plainfield

Pack Orders at Bram Towbin's Barn – Saturday, April 29, 2 pm

Volunteers: Rose, Roland, Cedric, Chris?

Note: Trucks will be loaded and then brought to Old Schoolhouse Common on Sunday

Address: 3195 Middle Rd, Plainfield

Plant Distribution at Old Schoolhouse Common, Marshfield – Sunday, April 30th, 9-11 am

Volunteers: Cedric, Julie, Serena, Rose, Anne, others

Public Safety Building – Site work will be done on April 13 to remove oil tanks and look for any soils contamination. Gary will be on the site to observe.

Natural Resource Inventory – Although ARPA funding was approved for continuation of the natural resource inventory/natural communities study, the funding has not been allocated because of a clerical error. The Select Board indicated at a recent meeting that funding would be found and allocated. However, at this late stage, Gary said that it would be best to put this work off until next spring/summer. Gary will contact Matt Peters and let him know of the delay. Gary will continue to communicate with the Select Board on the funding.

Clark Sawmill Dam Workgroup – No further update. Friends of the Winooski (FWR) has contacted property appraisal firms and the next step is to hire an appraiser for the Sawmill property. FWR has secured funding for the appraisal.

Outreach and Event Planning

Bear Aware presentation on March 23 was well attended and well received by the audience.

Emerald ash borer presentation scheduled on April 23, 4 pm.

Bird Walk, and Spring Ephemerals Walk - We will try to do 2 separate walks in May

Spring ephemeral walk – best to do on weekend of May 6-7

Check with Brett Engstrom, Matt Peters, and Bob Popp or see if they have recommendations

Dawn will check with Lisa Sausville at Vermont Coverts

Bird Walk

Library has \$200 for a bird walk leader

Location: Channel Drive

Cedric will check on his contacts

Dawn will check with Lisa at Vermont Coverts

Gary will check with North Branch Nature Center

New Business

The Select Board reappointed current Conservation Committee members to a one-year term. The Select Board asked that we propose a schedule of staggered terms for next year.

It was agreed that the next meeting will be an in-person meeting.