

Cabot Conservation Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2022

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

Next Meeting: **November 14 , 7:00 PM**

Draft minutes of September 12 approved without changes.

Public Comment

No public comment

Project Updates

Cedric and Gary continue to work on conservation plant sale details. We are considering an on-line plant ordering option,

Clark Sawmill Dam – the Select Board is interested in exploring options for dam removal after a discussion with Keith Cubbon of Central VT Regional Planning Commission concerning hazard mitigation. Gary was appointed chair of a workgroup to explore dam removal options.

Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions (AVCC) – Dawn asked if we are still members. Gary said that we haven't paid membership dues since 2020. It was agreed that we should become full members.

Natural Communities Study – We need to check in with the Select Board on the ARPA funds approved for continuation of the study and whether we will need to go out to bid on the project.

Ash Tree Management Plan – Need discussion with Select Board on budgeting for ash tree removal in the coming year. At this point there is no commitment from Road Commissioner that road crew can do any tree removal in the right-of-way, which would leave all the work to contractors. There was discussion of the recent confusion about the status of Old Center Rd. Roland did not include this road in the ash tree inventory.

Weed Wrench for invasives removal – we will investigate options and decide on purchase next meeting

Public Outreach and Event Planning

Gary has been in contact with Ali Kosiba, the UVM Extension Forester about a November presentation of Vermont Forests in a Changing Climate. He has offered that we can consider a remote presentation via Zoom by her but have a physical presence at the library.

Cabot Chronicle article – For the November issue of the Chronicle, Gary will submit an article on our fall/winter public presentation series.

Rules of Procedure

Cedric suggested a word change under Goals, changing “understanding” to “Understand.” This was approved along with some formatting changes.