

Cabot Conservation Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2022

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

Next Meeting: **January 9 , 7:00 PM**

Draft minutes of October 10 approved without changes.

Public Comment

No public comment

Project Updates

Cedric and Gary shared details on Shrub & Tree sale. Flyer has been drafted and we will be placing orders with nurseries soon. We hope to have a final flyer in January. Tentatively planning to have online purchasing in addition to mail order.

Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions (AVCC) – Gary will have 2023 annual dues paid out of our budget - \$50.

Natural Communities Study - Gary will check with Select Board at a January meeting to determine whether we need to go out to bid for continuation of the study.

Ash Tree Management Plan – nothing new to report.

Weed Wrench for invasives removal – We will review the options and make a purchase decision at the next meeting. The two companies selling these are:

<https://pullerbear.com/purchase.html>

<https://www.theuprooter.com/buy-now/Uprooter-Mini-p51175316>

Public Outreach and Event Planning

January 15 – Vermont’s Forests in a Changing Climate – Presenter will be Ali Kosiba, UVM Extension Forester. Gary will also ask her to cover forest management and carbon sequestration and programs available to landowners for forest management. Starting time will be 4:00 pm in the library. We will look into whether we can do a hybrid presentation both in person in the library and on Zoom. Gary will talk with Ali about whether to do an in-person presentation or a remote presentation.

Other events in the winter and spring will be discussed at the next meeting – outdoor winter tracking (January or February), Bear Aware (March), ash borer and ash tree management (April), bird walk, spring ephemerals, and invasives identification and management.

Gary will draft a Cabot Chronicle article on upcoming events for the January edition.

Annual Review of Rules of Procedure

Rules were approved with no changes. Some discussion about timing of election of officers; currently it is December. Discussion about whether it would be better to have elections after Town Meeting when new appointments are made by the Select Board. Currently, Conservation Committee members have one-year terms and need to be re-appointed each year after Town Meeting.

Election of Officers

Gary was elected as Chair. Cedric was elected as Secretary/Treasurer. Gary said that he will continue to draft minutes and will work with Cedric on sharing and dividing up duties.

New Business

We discussed recordkeeping and how we maintain our public records. We should be posting minutes and other documents on the town web site. This is not currently up to date. We decided that we will make this a priority in the coming months. We are responsible for posting our minutes and can get assistance in creating new pages for posting other records and materials. In addition to Gary, Cedric will get training to post materials on the web site.