

Cecil Forest Conservancy District Board

130 McKinneytown Road

North East, MD 21901

(p) 410-287-5777

<http://www.cecilforestryboard.sailorsite.net/>

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday July 5th, 2023

6PM @ Black Hill Ranger Station



Attendees:

Gabrielle Oldham Ron Anderson Michael Morgan

John Bennett Kathie Jarmon Dori Murphy

Katie Kranich Michael Morgan Matt Spiroff

Cara Dudzic

Gabrielle brought the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

The June meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the board via email on 6/26/23.

5 Million Tree Presentation

Cara Dudzic, Tree Planting Specialist, led discussion regarding the 5 Million Tree Initiative.

- Demonstration of the MDOT / MUCFC online grant application portal
- Discussion of tree planting projects and funding sources available for tree plantings

Treasurer's report

- John reviewed that 1 check that was approved by the board was written in June for NRCC tuition.
- The board voted to not roll over the expiring CD and to use funds for projected board expenses in the next year.

Maryland Big Tree Program Update:

- Board discussion of the Cecil County Big Tree Driving Tour, and feasibility of creating a southern Cecil County Big Tree Driving Tour.
- John gave the county report, and his report is provided below:

MBTP Report – June 2023

For Cecil – I did some preliminary work on the proposed southern Cecil County Big Tree Driving Tour by visiting a local church. The Board will need to provide additional direction on the parameters of this enterprise. Also Marc Lipnick and Wanda Dade, two MBTP volunteers from Baltimore County, hiked all the existing trails in Bohemia River State Park and identified 3 potential big trees. If the Board agrees, they will return in the late fall/winter to do the measurements.

State – 18 trees were measured in June; **6** new trees and **12** re-measurements. Eleven of the trees were in Montgomery County, 3 in Prince George’s and 2 each in Anne Arundel and Baltimore. Unfortunately the PG County champion longleaf pine was hit by lightning, died, and was taken down. It was the county champion since 2003 and briefly was the MD co-champion.

The Montgomery County team of Joli McCathran, Joe Howard and Vince Fillah measured/re-measured 11 trees in Montgomery. 9 are re-measurements and two are new trees. The blue atlas cedar and deodar cedar remain as State Champions. A new buttonbush is the State-co-champion.

Joli McCathran and Don VanHassent measured/re-measured 2 trees in Anne Arundel County. Both are 300+ point trees but neither are county champions.

The same team re-measured 3 trees in PG County. The sand hickory remains the State Champion. The white mulberry remains the county champion.

The team of Linda Barker and Marc Lipnick measured two new trees in Baltimore County—both are county champions. The new American chestnut at Oregon Ridge is the first of the “Return of the Chestnut” project saplings—planted almost 20 years ago. The mockernut hickory is in Patapsco Valley State Park.

Deodar Cedar



Blue Atlas Cedar



Figure 1. Trees referenced in MD Big Tree Program Report.

Natural Resources Career Camp (NRCC) Update:

- Gabrielle reported that NRCC registration is full with 42 students, and that camp will soon be underway this month.

Website Update:

Ron provided the update:

- June meeting minutes posted on the board’s website in July
- July meeting minutes posted on the board’s website in July

Old Business:

- The Cecil County Forestry Board voted to serve as an advisory group for the Elk Neck State Forest Arboretum as the forest staff seek ArbNet accreditation on the Arboretum.

New Business:

The meeting was adjourned approximately at 9:00 PM.

The next meeting will be held on August 9th, at 6:00 PM.