

Cecil Forest Conservancy District Board

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North East, MD 21901

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

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday January 8th, 2024

6PM @ Black Hill Ranger Station



Attendees:

Gabrielle Oldham	John Bennett	Ron Anderson
Dori Murphy	Kathie Jarmon	Katie Kranich
Tom Frederick	Matt Spiroff	Emilio Concari

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

The December 2024 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the board via email on 12/30/2024.

Treasurer's report

John provided the treasurer's report:

- No new purchases were made by the Board in the month of December.

Maryland Big Tree Program Update:

December Big Tree Report

CECIL – No activity. All new nominations and all re-measurements except two trees were completed by end of year. The two trees not measured were moved to the inactive file.

STATE – 1 tree was re-measured and 13 new trees were measured.

The one re-measured tree was the State Champion swamp chestnut oak on Spesutia Island at Aberdeen Proving Ground. It took over 4 years of requests to finally get permission to visit and measure. It scored 381 points. APG has not yet approved the photos for release.

New Trees

A London planetree at APG at 287 points

10 trees along the C & O Canal National Historical Park in Frederick County:

- 3 Shumard oaks – 363, 346, 323 points. The largest is the county champ.
- 1 Pin oak – 316 points, Frederick County Champion
- 1 Eastern cottonwood - 379 points, Frederick County Champion
- 2 Common hackberry - 323 & 291 points
- 1 Swamp white oak – 339 points
- 1 Sycamore – 386 points
- 1 Bitternut hickory – 281 points



Sycamore



Shumard oak

Figure 1: Trees referenced in Big Tree report.



Swamp white oak



Eastern cottonwood



Pin oak



Common hackberry

Figure 2: Additional trees referenced in Big Tree report.

Natural Resources Career Camp (NRCC) Update:

Gabrielle provided the update.

- Registration for NRCC 2025 is underway and Boards are welcoming applications across the state. At the meeting six applications had been received statewide.
- At the meeting of the Board, no response regarding the OCM review of the 2025 NRCC press release had been received. Since the meeting, the DNR has approved and posted the press release. The press release can be viewed here: <https://news.maryland.gov/dnr/2025/01/17/natural-resources-careers-camp-applications-accepted-now-for-summer-2025/>

Website Update:

- Ron posted the Board's meeting agenda and meeting minutes in December. There were no Big Tree listings that needed to be changed in December.

Old Business:

- John reported that the invitation process for the MBTP Centennial Celebration is well underway.
- John has obtained a quote for the printing of the MBTP GOAT tree booklet. He intends to seek quotes from other vendors as well.

New Business:

- The Board reviewed it's accomplishments from 2024 and summarized their efforts for a 2024 Year-In-Review document.
- The Board will be welcoming two DNR guests at our next meeting to discuss topics such as the 5 Million Tree Initiative and the MD Forest Service's Forest Legacy and Forest Health programs.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 PM.

The next meeting will be held on February 5th, 2025 at 6:00 PM.