

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 September 4th, 2024

6PM @ Black Hill Ranger Station

Attendees:

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

Gabrielle brought the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

The June 2024 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the board via email on 9/23/2024.

Treasurer's report

John provided the treasurer's report:

- No changes were made to the Board's accounts in the month of September.
- Matt asked the Board if they would like to place their order for white pine seedlings from the state nursery for Spring 2025 giveaways. The Board agreed to order the same number and species as last year, with 1600 total white pine seedlings at a total cost of \$272.00. **John made a motion to approve the purchase, Ron seconded the motion, and there was no opposition from the board.**

Maryland Big Tree Program Update:

- John, Kathie, Matt and Emilio are meeting on 10/10/24 to measure two listed Big Trees in Elk Neck State Park. The group may measure a pawpaw as a new county entry if one can be located.
- John provided the report. John's report is provided below:

September Big Tree Report

Cecil – No activity.

STATE – **Joli McCathran and Geary Schwemmer** went on a camping/Big Tree measuring trip 9/18 thru 9/23. As of 10/2, not all results have been received. I have registered **10 trees; 8 re-measures and 2 new trees:**

Somerset County – trees with * are Somerset County champions

***2 Baldcypress** – re-measure

***2 Yellow Poplar** – re-measure

- *1 Am. Beech – re-measure
- *1 Atlantic White Cedar – re-measure
- *1 Black Walnut – re-measure
- *1 Willow Oak – re-measure
- *1 Cryptomeria – new tree

Wicomico County

1 Sycamore – new tree

Also I was notified that the **State Champion Sugarberry** in Frederick County was cut down due to the wood decay fungus, *Kretzschmaria*, found in abundance in the main trunks as well as the root system making this tree very unstable.



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

Natural Resources Career Camp (NRCC) Update:

Gabrielle provided the update.

- Two campers have already applied for the 2025 camp!
- The Board is going to start working on the 2025 NRCC news articles soon so that the article can go through the proper DNR channels to be released in the Spring.
- The Board hopes to reach County schools via a current contact in the school system, in addition to new efforts to reach homeschool groups.

Website Update:

Ron gave the update:

- The September meeting minutes were uploaded to the board's website in September, and the October meeting agenda was added to the website in October.
- A discrepancy was found with some information listed on the Board's website, under the LTE page. Ron updated the page with the correct information.

Old Business:

- No old business was discussed.

New Business:

- A Critical Area Timber Harvest Plan was submitted by Christopher Figgs of Stoltzfus Forest Products for a property in an area near Pond Creek Lane in Earleville, MD. After a thorough review of the plan the Board voted to make a recommendation of approval provided that the harvest follows an approved sediment and erosion control plan, and all applicable forest harvest best management practices are applied to the site. John made a motion to recommend approval of the plan given the above criteria, Dori seconded the motion, and no Board members opposed. Michael abstained from voting.
- A Critical Area Timber Harvest Plan was submitted by Christopher Figgs of Stoltzfus Forest Products for a property near Lewis Shore Road in Elkton, MD. After a thorough review of the plan the Board voted to make a recommendation of approval provided that the harvest follows an approved sediment and erosion control plan, and all applicable forest harvest best management practices are applied to the site. John made a motion to recommend approval of the plan given the above criteria, Kathie seconded the motion, and no Board members opposed. Michael abstained from voting.
- A Forest Conservation Area Timber Harvest Plan was submitted by Christopher Figgs of Stoltzfus Forest Products for a property near Irishtown Road in Elkton, MD. After a thorough review of the plan the Board voted to make a recommendation of approval provided that the harvest follows an approved sediment and erosion control plan, and all applicable forest harvest best management practices are applied to the site. John made a motion to recommend approval of the plan given the above criteria, Ron seconded the motion, and no Board members opposed. Michael abstained from voting.
- John, Gabrielle, Dori and Emilio are meeting to make a video about Maryland Big Tree measurements at the request of DNR Forest Service leadership.
- John is working on a Maryland Big Tree specific historical timeline including photographs and information about entries to be published. John presented his current list of Big Tree notable events.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 PM.

The next meeting will be held on November 13th, at 6:00 PM.