

LACFB Minutes 1 20 22 Approved 3 17 22

Dave Griswold, Geneva Laurita, Roger Fuller, Sam Boss, Carissa Aoki,, Steve Murch in attendance

Meeting called to order at 6:05

The group began with a round of introductions

Steve motions to approve November minutes; Sam seconds. The Board approves [Geneva abstains as a new member].

Carissa motions to approve December minutes; Sam seconds. The Board approves [Geneva abstains as a new member].

Dave is meeting with the DALI student group from Bates on Mondays at 4 to discuss the notable tree project. Dave discussed whether to do QR codes or map/walking tour with the students.

- Steve has been in touch with Noel in the City of Auburn to ask about notable trees in the City.
- Steve noted his scheduling constraints and the group discussed the possibility of switching the meeting with the Bates students to 2 pm.
- Carissa notes that in order to create a website the students would need text. Steve mentions that there is an LACFB strategic plan, tree ordinance, and other language students could draw from.
- The group discusses how to maintain the website and how to involve City staff in Lewiston/Auburn.
- Geneva and Carissa discuss the possibility of integrating other tree ID maps such as the one at Bates into the DALI project.

Action steps: propose meeting change to 2 pm.

Dave has been in touch with Alison Kanoti, Maine State Entomologist.

- Planned webinar event for February 17 at 7:00 pm in lieu of meeting. BMT, EAB, and other invasive insect issues will be covered. Steve expressed concerns about doing an online webinar
- Discussion of locations for possible follow up field session

Invasive Plants Mitigation

- Cities could work with foresters to develop management plan for invasives; Dave is going to do some cost assessment. State funds are available to cover 50% of a management plan and full costs of implementation if the cities move forward. Steve suggested budgeting for 2023.
- Dave and Steve will help Bates students with surveys of different locations to assess where invasives are worst, and which ones should be prioritized.

Project Canopy Grants

- Group is going to continue to discuss possibilities for grant applications due 2 11.

Arboretum

- Roger provides an update that the Arboretum project is at something of an impasse because the City of Lewiston is otherwise occupied.

Auburn Street Tree Proposal

Auburn Conservation Commission endorsed the proposal for adding Street Tree requirements into Planning Board checklist for development projects. Proposal expected to be reviewed by Planning Board in February

Dave has been in conversation with Denis D'Auteuil and Gary about EAB management plans. Projections that Lewiston-Auburn will face significant problems with EAB within the next ten years.

Carissa discusses the risks posed by Southern Pine Beetle population movement into the northeast. The increase in average minimum winter temperature may be enabling their movement northwards. Can be contained through good forest management, culling of infected species. Thus far, the furthest north it has gone is Connecticut.