

Present: Andy George, Leslie Curtis, Danny Albert, Pete Dane, Lisa Hageman, Will Hochholzer, Cathy Shea, Barry Ford, Michele McCormick, Gary Walter

- Meeting called to order by Andy at 7:04 PM
- Approval of December 9, 2010 meeting minutes:
Motion: approve minutes from December 9 meeting. Motion: Cathy Shea; Second: Leslie Curtis
In Favor: all; Opposed: none.
- Strategic Plan:

a. Grant contract—part of plan was to have first meeting by January 31 and second meeting by February 28. Andy will check on potential dates with Henrietta between Feb 28-March 4.

-Andy discussed grant money of approx \$5,500; he will send copy to all board members to review, re guidelines for use of the money. Plan goes to end of June. LTA gave the grant with the assumption that CLT will gain accreditation. Lisa inquired if that clause is in the contract. There are benchmarks to reach to get money; refer to spreadsheet from Jan. 8 meeting.

b. Review of Jan 8, 2011 retreat-comments were positive.

- Sub-committee reports:
- Financial-Cathy handed out list of donors. Thirty eight new members. \$3,895 total so far for challenge grant.
- Fundraising—Pete said nothing new at this time, but is looking for a new member(s) due to Cindy's resignation. Andy got information from Cindy and will forward to board members.
- Land owner contact—Lisa would like to make a priority list for properties, such as the top five properties.
- Monitoring of land trust properties- Andy & Danny walked Whispering Pines property. Saw no encroachment;

missing some boundary markers, but saw no changes. Approx $\frac{3}{4}$ of property was marked; need to finish, maybe in spring. Pete Dane will walk McDonald Road property with Cindy Praisner. Barry & Lisa will do Gateway property.

6. Discussion of a RFP to hire a forester for land management plans- Will H. will be speaking with someone. Money is available from NRCS-can apply for a cost share; discussion tabled until next month.

7. Review of Standards & Practices spreadsheet- 2C Tax Exemption, and 11A Funding Easement Stewardship, were approved in December. 5A Legal & Ethical Practices- Pete & Leslie, in progress.

8B Project Selection & Criteria—Barry, not started yet. 9E Easement Drafting-- Lisa & Will, possibly by March. 9H Title Investigation & Subordination--Cathy will start. 11B Baseline Documentation Report—Helene has a draft, possible for February.

-Henrietta put together models that could be used.

8. Agricultural Viability Grant- Leslie said data needs to be collected in order to ask for bonding for open space, etc. She has not received any new information re the grant. Paula Stahl wrote the grant with Greg Schuster. Andy noted that Chris Bourque had mentioned another possible way to complete this grant; Andy will forward information when it becomes available.

9. Standards and Practices: 12A Funding Land Stewardship- Pete & Chuck, not much progress yet. 11C Easement Monitoring Policy- Barry inquired if the responsible party should be specified; Lisa said it might be mentioned in 11E. Will H. noted that there is really no pressure on the monitor- it's internal to the CLT. Some minor editing was done, and also to refer to 11E. Will H. will ask Helene to make changes, put policy on appropriate letterhead and forward to board members. Andy mentioned that the policy adoption date should also be noted.

Motion: approve policy 11C Easement Monitoring Policy, with changes. Motion: Barry Ford; Second: Lisa Hageman; In favor: all; Opposed: none.

-12D Monitoring Land Trust Properties- Lisa sent out a draft, after the December meeting.

Motion: approve Policy 12D Monitoring Land Trust Properties, as written. Motion: Will Hochholzer; Second: Cathy Shea; In favor: all; Opposed: none.

10. Discover Colchester Hikes: Gary Walter will take over for Marty Podskoch, who is moving out of town. Gary will follow Marty's plan for now, but not sure if a February hike will be feasible. Will H. suggested 'tracking' as a theme in the winter months. Andy suggested going forward, to consider a tour of White Oak Farms-- homes and open space, near Bacon Academy; CLT has not walked it yet. Information can be obtained from Jay Gigliotti, at town hall. Gary suggested Zagray Farm for a future hike - heard about possible archeological dig there.

11. Old Business: Andy received a letter from CT Audubon Society, which implies that CLT has given in the past, yet no one can recall. Andy inquired if CLT should make a donation.

Motion: donate \$50 to CT Audubon Society. Motion: Pete Dane; Second: none, therefore the motion was not carried.

12. New Business-gifts of recognition for outgoing board members, Cindy Praisner & Marty Podskoch. It was suggested to invite

them to the art auction (April 12), to recognize their efforts. Until then, Lisa suggested sending them thank you notes. Andy will write two notes and share with everyone, and will purchase gift certificates for both, from local businesses.

-Lisa-board manuals need to updated for 2011. Cathy will update the calendar of events. Lisa asked everyone to bring manuals to next meeting.

-Will- inquired about pledges from board members, for particular properties.

13. Adjournment:

Motion: adjourn the regular meeting of the CLT at 8:34 PM. Motion: Pete Dane; Second: Leslie Curtis; In favor: all; Opposed: none.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2011.