

Colchester Land Trust Meeting

Craigin Memorial Library

March 10, 2011

Present: Cathy Shea, Andy George, Barry Ford, Will Hochholzer, Helene Hochholzer, Chuck Toal, Michele McCormick, Danny Albert, Penni Rochette, Chris Bourque, Pete Dane, Lisa Hageman, Liz Moore, David Morrison

1. Meeting called to order by Andy at 7:07 PM.

2. Approval of February 10 minutes:

Motion: Approve minutes from February 10 meeting. Motion: Pete Dane; Second: Will Hochholzer;

In favor: all; Opposed: none.

3. CT Farmland Trust: Liz Moore was introduced to the group, and described the mission of the CT Farmland Trust, created in 2002. She recently met with Lisa re State Farmland Preservation, soil scientists & NRCS.

4. Strategic Plan update CLT/LTA:

- Next meeting –possibly week of April 25, 6-9 or 9:30 PM. Last week, on March 2, about eight members had a meeting with Henrietta, and moved forward; the plan discussed involves a lot of work—Andy asked for input from that meeting. Recently, he examined an LTA strategic plan, and would like to try to model theirs—will discuss with Henrietta.

5. Sub-committee reports:

- Financial- Cathy discussed the need to reallocate some funds, based on a formula already in place. Cathy & Penni reviewed the policy and looked at 18K net income, to be reallocated. Andy asked for clarification about the policy-- which is to put at least 30% in stewardship.

Motion: Allocate excess funds from 2010, by distributing into thirds to the following funds-Stewardship Fund, Acquisition Fund & General Fund. Motion: Chuck Toal; Second: Pete Dane; In favor: all; Opposed: none.

- Fundraising- Pete heard from Chuck re scheduling a meeting on March 24 for fundraising committee, & possibly on June 2, September 15 & Nov. 17. Pete completed the grant application for the Lions, and submitted it on time.

- Land owner contact- Lisa said a small meeting took place, but needs clarification on who is doing what, re policies—she will speak with Andy.

6. Wine & Art Auction: Barry reported it's going well so far and has approx. forty art pieces and fifty wines. Cathy & Lisa offered to bring food. Barry will put out an e-mail announcement, for board members to forward to people. Some help will be needed to set-up; Andy mentioned that Barry could ask Danny to assist, by utilizing the volunteer list. Andy sent invitation to Marty & Cindy for April 12 (recognition).

7. Review Website: an open discussion about the membership listing on the CLT website, regarding the duration of listed members (past & present), and criteria & timeline for updating the membership list/donor levels. Discussion tabled to fundraising sub-committee meeting.

8. NRCS Grant update: Will H., said site visit will be scheduled. Cost share grant for a TSP, 25% for CLT to pay. Will shared NRCS registration information for the following CLT properties: Bulkeley Hill- 14.87 acres, Farm # 2039, Tract # 8444; Usher Swamp- 24.68 acres, Farm # 2040, Tract # 8445; Gateway - 17.92 acres, Farm # 2041, Tract # 8446.

9. Volunteers for events: Andy suggested that Danny put out call for volunteers. He also mentioned Earth Day clean-up, and Chuck suggested that new easels might be needed for displays at events. Dave Morrison requested to be on volunteer list. Upcoming events: Auction- April 12; Road Race- May 7; Memorial Day- May 29; CBA Tag Sale on the Green- June 12; Historical Society Craft Show- July 23; 57 Fest-September (?).

10. Board Calendar: Cathy sent out, please put in binders. Barry will include CT Farm Bureau on CLT website, as suggested by Chris Bourque.

11. Tenth Anniversary Celebration: (Dec. 2001-Dec. 2011) – committee met, possible date, Aug. 13; many ideas- basically have a party, to celebrate. Andy will send out some notes to everyone and would like some feedback. He also inquired if anyone has a location in mind; he has a suggestion and will follow-up. Any information on appropriate musical bands would also be needed, as well as leads for large sponsors- not necessarily from town, but to also think outside of Colchester. Please respond to Cathy, Barry, Andy or Lisa with ideas. It was suggested that another committee might be needed to put together a program.

12. Policies: 8D Public Benefit of Transactions- Michele will begin. 11I Amendments -Will & Helene.

13. Standards & Practices:

- 12A Funding Land Stewardship—Chuck & Pete, next meeting.
- 5A Legal & Ethical Practices-Pete & Leslie, in progress, April.
- 8B Project Selection & Criteria- not started yet, Barry & Helene.
- 9E Easement Drafting (March 2011), (LOC) Lisa will get with Chris & others.
- 9H Title Investigation & Subordination-Cathy sent out a draft & Andy will help to review.
- 11B Baseline Documentation Report-Helene said it's done, & will bring to April meeting.

14. Environmental Law workshop: Andy inquired if anyone from the board is interested in attending, on April 2; cost can be reimbursed by CLT.

15. Defense Fund update: a lot of information per Andy, he forwarded it to all, thru e-mail.

16. Old Business: none.

17. New Business: Andy said he has been thinking about the money in CLT accounts and feels CLT has a responsibility to grow money. Chris suggested investing in Edward Jones, & to consider inviting a representative to give CLT advice on how to invest earnings. CLT does have an account with Edward Jones, & Andy will make contact to inquire. David offered to check with Schwabb. -Danny inquired about the CLT hike with Gary on March 20.

-Everyone thanked Liz Moore for attending tonight.

18. Adjournment:

Motion: Adjourn the regular meeting of the CLT at 8:51 PM. Motion: Chuck Toal; Second: Lisa Hageman;

In Favor: all; Opposed: none.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2011