



Town of Fairfield Land Acquisition Commission

CHAIR: Karen Hinch
COMMISSIONS: Stuart Manley

VICE-CHAIR: Henry Skiba Jr
Mary Cody

Jeanne Konecny
Jeanne Harrison

SECRETARY: Wendy Radovic
Letitia Ferguson
Phil Dwyer

April 6, 2011
(Draft) Minutes

Present: Phil Dwyer, Wendy Radovic, Karen Hinch, Stu Manley, Jeanne Konecny, Henry Skiba Jr., Letitia Ferguson, Mary Cody, Jeanne Harrison

Absent: All present

Guests: David Brant, Executive Director: Aspetuck Land Trust, Amy Paterson, Executive Director : Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC)

Chair called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. in John Sullivan Independence Hall and welcomed David Brant and Amy Paterson.

Chair appointed Dwyer to represent Jeanne Konecny and Chair appointed herself to represent Manley.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Radovic, seconded by Harrison to approve the minutes of March 2, 2011.
Passed: unanimously

Announcements

- A. Manley: The Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (Tax Credit Program is designed to provide funding for municipal and tax exempt organizations by providing a corporation business tax credit for businesses who make cash contributions to these entities.

Konecny asked if there could be a transfer tax on all property transactions. Amy Paterson said the town's governing body could enact a statute to address that.

3. New Business

- A. Chair introduced Amy Paterson who reviewed her own background as a private attorney for 20 years who focused on conservation and regulatory planning. Next, she worked as Project Manager for the Trust for Public Land and then to her current position as executive director of CLCC. She summarized the role of the CLCC as an organization that works

with Land Trusts, Conservation Commissions, Garden clubs and other conservation organizations to protect land in perpetuity. CLCC also provides conservation organizations with the tools through technical training and assistance that will aid them in remaining strong.

As a registered lobbyist, Patterson said she goes to the State Capitol regularly on behalf of the conservation community. Another important contribution to a community is giving expertise at workshops put on by various conservation entities that seek to educate the public about conservation. Every year, CLCC have a conference, and this year's conference will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2011, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM at Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT. The focus of the conference is on Collaboration and Cooperation, which emphasizes the need for organizations to see what others, are doing and learning from each other rather than working in isolation. Paterson distributed various pieces of information material. #1: Options for landowners, #2 Conservation Objectives, #3 WalkCT, a program of the CT Forest & Park Association and the annual CLCC booklet listing the agenda.

General discussion followed with questions and answers about holding a workshop to help landowners learn about the various options open to them.

4. Old Business

A. Chair reminded the commissioners to bring their copy of the LAC Plan to next meeting for review and updating.

5. Executive Session

None

6. Adjournment

Motion by Harrison, seconded by Cody to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Marcia H. Miner

