

# West Pikeland Land Trust

---

West Pikeland Land Trust  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
August 25, 2008

Attendance:    Jim Rowan                    Ann Orth                    Sean O'Neill  
                      Suzanne Kaplan            Tom Williams            Curt Grogan  
                      Melinda Mercurio        Teresa Wood

---

## 1. Minutes of Meeting

Minutes of previous Board of Directors Meeting July 28, 2008 were reviewed and unanimously approved with no corrections.

## 2. Financial Report

Teresa indicated that the complete financials, including NLT account reconciliation would be presented in September in accordance with the quarterly schedule. Teresa requested approval for an invoice from NLT in the amount of \$663.08 for miscellaneous expenses, which would be deducted from the remaining NLT account balance, which Teresa indicated was in excess of \$33,000 as of 6/30/08. Tom Williams made a motion to approve this invoice, Curt seconded, and all voted in favor.

## 3. Committee Reports

**Open Space:** Curt advised that the Conservation Priority Mapping, criteria, etc. was approved by the BOS and documents had been submitted to the school district and adjoining municipalities by the Township as part of the 45 day review process. He confirmed that the 45 day comment period ends August 28 which should allow this to be finalized and voted on by the BOS at the September 15 meeting.

**Trails:** No Report.

**Communication:** Melinda advised that the WPLT website was complete. Melinda handed out a copy of her Website Pre-launch review, assigning directors responsibility to review various components of the site for content and technical correctness. Melinda will email link to all directors requesting their review and edits by Friday, September 5.

**Monitoring and Stewardship:** No Report

**Development & Grants:** No Report

**Education:** No Report.

**Strategic Planning:** No Report.

**Governance and Compliance:** Jim Rowan advised that the revised Operating agreement between WPLT and the Township was approved at the August Township meeting. The revised agreement extended for five (5) years and was only awaiting final signatures from the BOS.

**General & Administrative:** Jim Rowan indicated that a Nominating Committee should be formed to propose and nominate a slate of Officers and Committee Chairs for 2009. Tom Williams motioned that this be handled by the Existing Executive Committee. Ann Orth seconded and all voted in favor. Jim would email Executive Committee to schedule a conference call.

**4. New Board Member Discussion.**

Jim Rowan indicated that a group of Board members had met with Lisa Lacroix to provide a more thorough review of the operations of WPLT and confirm her interest in joining the Board. She was very enthusiastic and it was agreed she would be a valuable addition to the Board. Suzanne nominated Lisa, Melinda seconded the nomination and all voted in favor of Lisa's appointment to the Board subject to approval by the BOS. Sean would write a letter to the BOS for September meeting and Melinda would notify Lisa of the Board's decision.

**5. WPLT Role in Township owned properties**

Jim Rowan advised that the letter he had submitted to the BOS on behalf of WPLT regarding usage of Pine Creek Park was ignored in the public hearing and discussion about ball fields. This again raised the question about WPLT role in stewardship of public owned land and specifically township owned property. In conjunction with the previous meeting with the OS Committee, NLT and French and Pickering Trust, it was agreed that the best way to protect the conservation values of these properties would be to attempt to secure conservation easements on them. As WPLT now has a complete list of these properties, some research was necessary to determine what easements/restrictions were in place and which were recorded. It was agreed that outside resources would be required to complete this task and fund a Conservation easement Plan for these properties. Curt Grogan motioned that WPLT formally request that the Township support WPLT to solicit proposals to prepare a Conservation Easement Plan for Township owned properties. Melinda seconded this proposal and Cut's motion was unanimously approved.

**The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Monday, September 22, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Township Building.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Thomas L. Williams  
August 26, 2008