

# West Pikeland Land Trust

---

West Pikeland Land Trust  
**MEETING MINTUES**  
DECEMBER 13, 2007

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

---

**1. Minutes of Meeting**

Minutes of previous Board of Directors Meeting November 26, 2007 were reviewed and approved. Tom Williams agreed to take minutes from meeting.

**2. Nomination of new WPLT Director**

Prospective Board member Melinda Mercurio was nominated by Tom Williams and approved unanimously by the Board for a one year term. Sean O'Neill would write a letter to the BOS seeking approval for new appointment. Melinda agreed to become the Chairperson for the Communications Committee.

**3. Resignation of Director WPLT Mike Shirk**

Jim Rowan announced that Mike Shirk had submitted his resignation, effective December 1, 2007 due to personal reasons. Mike volunteered the services of his firm and offered to assist with communications and website, if necessary. Melinda would contact Mike to obtain information about the current website.

**4. WPLT New Board Member search**

Jim Rowan suggested that WPLT recruit additional potential Board Members to fill out committees identified to complete the anticipated expanded role of WPLT for the coming year. Real Estate and fundraising were recognized as strategic areas of expertise currently lacking on the Board. The following individuals were recommended, based on previous interest and skill set. The Board members in parentheses would contact these individuals prior to the next Board meeting and assess their current interest: Anne Ashton (Sean), Tom Toole (Sean), Rick Miller (Sean, Melinda), Charlie Jordan ( Ann, Suzanne, Curt), Robert Haskell (Ann, Curt)

**5. WPLT Membership/Fundraising Appeal**

Melinda advised that proposed membership/fundraising mailer had recently been sent to 1,300 Township residents. Jim and Ann announced that an anonymous donor had agreed to match funds up to \$5,000. It was suggested that the Township also be petitioned to match donations, up to \$10,000. All WPLT Board Members were given copies and encouraged to submit their donations by year end to take advantage of the match and achieve 100% Board participation.

#### **6. WPLT future role in Open Space Initiative**

With the successful passing of the Open Space referendum, the discussion turned to the WPLT role in the next phase of this process. Curt Grogan submitted an Update on Open Space Fund Next Steps at December 2, 2007, based on the assumption that that WPLT become the advisory body to the Board of Supervisors to review and recommend potential conservation projects for Township approval and expenditure of funds. There was lengthy discussion about the structure of this committee vs. the independent nature of the Land Trust but it was agreed that WPLT should establish a committee of that Land Trust, including representatives of other local agencies and citizens that would refer projects to WPLT Board for approval and recommendation to the BOS. Jim Rowan presented a draft document-outline for a proposal to the Township with a statement of interest, experience, qualifications and approach for this service so the Township could vote to approve WPLT to serve in this capacity. Melinda circulated a template for Directors' biographies which had been completed by most Directors. Curt and Jim Rowan will work in conjunction with the Township Manager to refine this proposal for presentation to the BOS.

#### **7. WPLT Committee Structure**

Jim Rowan submitted a revise draft outline of proposed Committees, Chair and Board Member participants (see Attached). Each Committee was responsible to generate a Statement of Scope, 2008 Budget, Goals, Objectives & Performance measures, prior to the January Board meeting. All Directors were requested to review assignments and respond to Jim Rowan, confirming or modifying assignments. Each proposed Chairperson should review committee structure and proposed resources and confirm or propose revisions or modifications necessary to fulfill committee deliverables.

#### **8. Special Recognition of former Director Centa Logan**

Centa Logan was recognized for her service as a former Director of WPLT. In addition to being one of the founding members and former Treasurer of WPLT, Centa was one of the first landowners in the township to have WPLT facilitate a conservation easement on her property. Centa expressed her delight in the progress of WPLT and willingness to continue serving as an advocate for conservation in the township.

**The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Monday, January 28, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Township Building.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Thomas L. Williams  
December 28, 2007

