

West Pikeland Land Trust

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MEETING MINUTES
March 23, 2009

Attendance: Richard Bright (BOS appointee), Curt Grogan, Ted Gacomis, Mike Groman, Lisa Lacroix, Melinda Mercurio, Kim O'Rourke, Jim Rowan, Teresa Wood and Tom Williams

Absent: Ann Orth, Tim Teetz

Guests: Tripp and Mimi McOrmond, Ann and Carl Petris, Lila Smith and Jason Lubaar

1. Presentation by Jason Lubar of the Morris Arboretum

2. Minutes of Meeting

Minutes of the previous Board of Directors Meeting held on February 23, 2009 were reviewed. Lisa motioned to approve, Melinda seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Non-Disclosure Document

Curt passed out this document and requested all Board members to sign.

4. Committee Reports

Open Space Advisory Subcommittee (Non-Landowner specific): No report was given by Ted. Teresa reported an update from Joan Cox regarding Open Space funds for the month of February. Net \$71,515 was reported with the checking balance totaling \$315,825.

WPT Park & Recreation Trails Subcommittee: Lisa reported that the feasibility study was received from Pam Brown. If any board member wants to read it and provide comments/revisions, please do so before the final study is bound for publication. Regarding the DCNR grant for building the bridges on Pickering trail, Lisa reported a \$5,000 check was received in May 2008 following the April 2008 award letter but no check was received following the October 2008 award letter. Lisa will follow up with State Senator Andy Dinniman's office for resolution.

Communication: Melinda requested that WPLT use a third-party outbound emailing service, Constant Contact.

Monitoring and Stewardship: No report was given.

Development: Jim reported that Bill Richmond is providing pricing for his photos for fundraising. Volunteers are needed for the flower sale at Binky Lee. In addition, a \$350 budget was requested to purchase a new WPLT banner. Curt will be responsible for getting the new banner. Jim motioned to approve, Melinda seconded and the Board approved it.

Grants: Lisa requested, on behalf of Ann, if a grant should be written to pay John Hoekstra to give a presentation on the protection of watersheds. Lisa also inquired if Tom Hylton and Peter Hauseman asked to give talks in May. Both requests were not approved.

Lisa asked if WPLT should pursue accreditation or go to the PALTA conference. Jim motioned to defer this discussion on accreditation until we have a paid staff member. Ted seconded and the board approved.

Education: Mike will follow up with Jason Lubar. Mike proposed to request that the PA Equine Council give a presentation on trails this coming fall. In addition, Mike requested an ½ hour block to discuss education at the next board meeting.

Strategic Planning: No report was given.

Governance and Compliance: No report was given.

General and Administrative: No report was given.

Volunteer Coordination: No report was given.

5. Other Matters

Discussion on review of all documents: Jim suggested a methodology be developed for board members to have ready access to all pertinent documents relating to open space issues and that Ted provide easements to all board members at least one week in advance of voting. Teresa requested a confidentiality disclaimer be included on all emails including sensitive documents and/or discussions.

Discussion on future revisions to Guiding Principles: Melinda recommended the board regularly review the Guiding Principles.

Discussion on to facilitate strategic planning: Melinda suggested the board schedule a two-hour meeting on a Saturday morning to review the WPLT vision discussion from the February meeting.

By the end of May, Teresa will develop a six-month budget plan for the second half of 2009, in preparation for 2010. Teresa suggested this would be a better time to focus on strategic planning.

General press release discussion: Melinda requested that the process of preparing press releases start earlier.

Board meeting date change: Change the May meeting date to Wednesday, May 20 2009.

Jim motioned to close the meeting and Lisa seconded.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on April 27, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the Township Building

Respectfully submitted,
Kim O'Rourke
March 24, 2009