

EAST GRANBY LAND TRUST

2015 Annual Meeting East Granby Public Library

November 3, 2015

Twenty-three people attended the beautiful and very informative presentation on “Becoming Bear Aware” by Gabrielle Murphy, Master Wildlife Conservationist with the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Gabrielle displayed many beautiful photographs, models of a bear skull and scat, and a beautiful bear pelt. She provided interesting details of bear range and behaviors as well as advice on responding to bear encounters.

Following the presentation, President John Erbland called the 2015 annual meeting to order at 8:18pm.

The following board members were in attendance:

Ian Clark
Michelle Clifford
Cathy Delasco, Treasurer
Jeanne Dube, Secretary
John Erbland, President
Jennifer Frank
Alex Geer
Jonathan Kelly
Jennifer Kovaleski
Amanda Thompson

A quorum of twelve voting members were in attendance for the land trust annual business meeting

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the 2014 annual meeting as previously distributed and available for review was made by Ian and seconded by Jennifer Frank. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Annual Report for 2014 – Cathy Delasco

Cathy summarized the major income and expenses since the 2014 annual report.

Jennifer Frank moved to accept the Treasurer’s report for audit. Ian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Cathy’s full report is attached.

President’s Annual Report for 2014 – John Erbland

John introduced the members of the Board of Directors, then summarized the activities and accomplishments of 2015. His full report is attached.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed By-Law Revisions – Jeanne Dube

Jeanne summarized proposed changes to the By-Laws as posted on the Land Trust website and available for review prior to the meeting. Jeanne moved to approve the proposed revised By-Laws as presented.

John moved to amend the motion to define the terms of directorships and officers to coincide with the Land Trust fiscal year. Cathy seconded. The motion to amend was approved.

Jennifer Frank moved to accept the proposed changes as amended. Ian seconded. The revised By-Laws as amended were approved by hand vote without dissent.

Nominations to the Board – Jeanne Dube

Jeanne nominated Amanda Thompson to renew a 3-year term as Director, from 2016-2018.

Jeanne asked for nominations from the floor to fill several open Directorships. Jennifer Frank nominated member Ray Froschio for a 1-year term.

Ian moved to accept the slate of Directors as presented. Cathy seconded. Jeanne cast a single vote in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Election of officers for the year 2016 will take place at the next regular board meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 3, 2015.

Ian moved to adjourn. Cathy seconded. President John Erbland adjourned the meeting at 8:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Dube
Secretary, East Granby Land Trust

East Granby Land Trust
Treasurers Annual Report to the Membership
Annual Meeting – November 3, 2015
(November 1, 2013 - October 31, 2014)

Income and Expenses in Fiscal Year 2015 in Review

| INCOME 2015 | | EXPENDITURES 2015 | |
|-------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| Dues | \$ 840 | Admin/Insur/Affil. | \$1730 |
| Donations | \$1000 | Prop Mgmt/Trng | \$ 305 |
| Grant | \$2500 | Grant | \$2500 |
| Prog. Sales | \$ 566 | Scholarship | \$ 500 |
| Misc. | \$ 256 | AYO Final Pmt. | \$1000 |
| | | Prog/Outreach | \$ 830 |
| TOTALS | \$5162 | | \$6865 |

Fiscal Year Comparisons With Previous Years

| | <u>2013</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|----------|-------------|-------------|--|
| Checking | \$2307.11 | \$3050.36 | \$1737.41 |
| Reserve | \$11025.76 | \$11036.87 | \$11348.12 (12/15/2013 \$300 deposit) |
| Totals | \$13332.87 | \$14087.23 | \$13085.53 |

Introduction to the Board

Our board includes : Ian Clark, Michelle Clifford (Stewardship Chair), Cathy Delasco (Treasurer), Jeanne Dube (Secretary), Jennifer Frank (Vice President), Don Holtman, Brian Kleinman, Jennifer Kovaleski (Membership Chair), Frank Negrotti, Amanda Thompson (Program Chair), and our interns Alex Geer (Junior), Jonathan Kelly (Junior), and Chloe Wellins (Senior).

2015 President's Report

I would like to thank all of our board members for their hard work and contributions. I would like to thank our membership for their ongoing support. I would also like to thank Shelley Leone for her beautiful posters that have helped advertise our events, and the East Granby Public Library for hosting our meetings and presentations.

This year, we have provided, or assisted with, a number of educational presentations and outdoor activities. These include 3 hikes and 4 walks, three children's activities, including the Fairy House and Earth Day programs. In August, we had our 6th annual Astronomy event.

In March, we completed the formalities of an organizational self-assessment, with the help of a consultant provided by the CT Land Conservation Council (an association of land trusts within CT) and the Land Trust Alliance (a national organization). Among other items in our resulting "To Do List", is a revision of our By-Laws, to be voted on tonight.

But most important, and most relevant to our mission as a Land Trust, is stewardship. This year, we had around 40 work sessions and site visits. What do we do in our work parties? Mainly, we do battle with nonnative invasive plants. We also plant more suitable vegetation in some of our properties. We modify some properties to better provide habitat for wildlife that has been marginalized by development and other changes to the environment. This year, we have done this work at six of our properties: Griffin Marsh on Holcomb Street, Pond Meadow on Pond Lane, Newgate Farm (no relation) on Kimberly Road, and properties on Coppergate Road, Eastfield Farms Road, and Fieldstone Road. Early this year, in order to improve water quality at the Pond at Pond Meadow, we had some fallen trees removed, with support from a grant from EPOC (Environmental Professionals of CT). I mention the grant in part because it is exceptional. Almost all of our work is either unfunded, or funded by membership dues and some donations.

The East Granby Land Trust is an all-volunteer land trust. That means there is no paid staff, and we depend entirely on volunteers to get things done, whether it is stewardship as just described, or serving on the board or a committee. We are also a private non-profit organization and are not funded by any government, and so depend on donations and membership dues to support our work.