



**Lower Connecticut River Land Trust  
09/17/19 MEETING MINUTES  
LCRVCOG Office, 145 Dennison Rd., Essex**

**Board Members In Attendance:** Lauren Gister, Anthony Salvatore, Cathy lino, Melvin Woody, Ed Bailey, Bonnie Reemsnyder, Noel Bishop

**Other:** Sam Gold, Margot Burns, Claire Matthews, Marilyn Gleeson, David Brown, Kristina White, Eliza LoPresti

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Lauren Gister.

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the July 16, 2019 meeting.

**Motion made by:** Anthony Salvatore

**Seconded by:** Noel Bishop

**Voted:** Motion approved unanimously

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the July 24, 2019 meeting.

**Motion made by:** Noel Bishop

**Seconded by:** Anthony Salvatore

**Voted:** Motion approved unanimously

**Discussion with Land Trust Liaisons on Board Transition**

The first step is that the land trusts should join the LCRLT as members. The composition of the future board is still in question. There was discussion on number of members, affiliate members, and the number of committees. The consensus was that there should be language in the bylaws to provide for a board of "at least" 7 members, or of "7 – 11" members (or some other number).

There should be one annual meeting, rather than one for membership and one for directors. It was suggested that this meeting be held in December.

During discussion it was noted that the LTE has already created a matrix to prioritize projects for once funding comes in. Therefore, there should not be fear that land trusts that are represented on the board will be furthering their own projects over furthering interests of the entire region.

Mr. Gold will draft language regarding applying to become a permanent member of the land trust. At a November meeting there will be a vote of members to accept the permanent members and maybe increase

the board of directors. At the December meeting there could be a vote of those who want to stand for election to the board. A nominating committee will need to be formed. The nominating committee doesn't need to be board members only. The existing bylaws allow for appointing of additional members.

RiverCOG will send a letter regarding what will be done at the next board meeting, how and why land trusts should submit an application to become LCRLT members (to all land trusts in the region; not just those on the LTE), and a timeline.

At the September COG meeting the LCRLT will hold a membership meeting during which the COG will be updated that a bylaws amendment is coming for vote during the December meeting.

#### **Next Land Trust Board Meeting**

Next meeting will be Oct. 15.

#### **Other**

Ms. Burns noted that LCRLT needs to start thinking about a website and sending letters to foundations.

Mr. Woody noted that the Gateway Outreach Committee recently met. They are trying to re-emphasize the fact that their body not only regulates standards along the river, but also exists because of the conservation zone. There was discussion on bodies working together to pursue something like a National Heritage Corridor as there is overlap amongst Gateway, LCRLT, Conte preserve, Roger Torey Peterson, etc.

Ms. White discussed possible reciprocal funding for our website among the organizations mentioned.

Chairman Gister noted that Chester, in conjunction with state preservation, will be dedicating the Judge Motley house as a preserved historical site.

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 9:55 am.

**Motion made by:** Melvin Woody

**Seconded by:** Bonnie Reemsnyder

**Voted:** Motion approved unanimously