

Minutes of the Watershed Agricultural Council Meeting

June 22, 2010

I. Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Directors Present:

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|-----------------|------------------------|
| David Cammer | Fred Huneke |
| John Riedl | Tom Donnelly |
| Sally Fairbairn | Darby Hartwell |
| William Coleman | Tom Hutson |
| Ken Smith | Richard Giles |
| Steve Reed | Joe Eisele |
| Barbara Howard | John Schwartz, NYC DEP |

Directors Absent:

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| Dave Post | John Verhoeven |
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Others Present:

Craig Cashman
Thomas Artale
Cheryl Marion

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the May, 2010 WAC meeting.

Motion: Tom Hutson

Second: Sally Fairbairn

Approved

III. Executive Director Reports – Craig Cashman

A. Operational Report

- Work Plans have been completed, reviewed by E.D., committees and are in the packets today for approval. Upon approval they will become operational and will be reviewed by the E.D. monthly and quarterly as well as placed on the intranet calendar which can be reviewed by board members. A quarterly deliverable update is forwarded to DEP with payment requests.

Motion to approve all the Program Work Plans for 2010-2011

Motion: Dave Cammer

Second: John Riedl

Approved

- Staff performance assessments are being completed and will be kept track of in an HR database and reported to the HR committee.
- FOIL/Open Meeting Draft: A draft document of a potential policy was simply distributed at this time for review. This document will be reviewed in detail by the Executive Committee and may come before the Board in July or August.
- NYSERDA – Final payment was received and has been absorbed where it was withdrawn.

- See Executive Director's Report dated June 22, 2010.

B. Program Reports

- Whole Farm Plan Definition

Motion to approve the Whole Farm Plan Definition approved as written and dated May 27, 2010

Motion: Sally Fairbairn

Second: Joe Eisele

Opposed: Tom Donnelly

Approved

- Conservation Land Trust Insurance

Motion: the NYC Watershed Agricultural Council, Inc. hereby commits to participating as an insured in the Land Trust Alliance Conservation Defense Insurance and authorizes Frederick W. Huneke as the Board Chair and Craig J. Cashman as the Executive Director to:

- 1. Execute the Commitment attached hereto and to deliver the same to the Land Trust Alliance;**
- 2. Commit to insure our portfolio of 105 conservation easements (counting divided easements as separate units and not as one unit) and/or zero fee-owned parcels (counting fee land parcels that meet the conditions for unified preserve coverage as one unit) and/or zero trail easements and/or zero deed covenants with the Program subject to the terms and conditions as set forth in the Program Terms and Conditions delivered by the Land Trust Alliance dated June 8, 2009, that was presented to the board at its duly constituted meeting on June 22, 2010; and**
- 3. Deliver a check to the Land Trust Alliance in the amount of \$1,000 for our registration fee in connection with this commitment to participate in the Program. (to be mailed July 9, 2010)**

Motion: on the recommendation of the Executive Committee

Second: Joe Eisele

Approved

WAC has been assured that after the study is completed if we want to walk away from this project we can.

IV. Human Resources – John Riedl

- John reported that the committee has met to discuss their purpose and goals. Any future discussion by this committee will be placed on hold pending the results of the Human Resources RFP. The committee will most likely meet again in August.

V. Chair's Report –

- Leon Brooks, NRCS District Conservationist will be leaving the end of the summer and has taken a position in Washington, DC.
- The Endowment RFP has been mailed to potential investors. Investment policies will be approved. The Endowment Committee will interview three applicants and then ask for approval of the Board of their final candidate. The deadline for the RFPs is July 7th and Craig is writing the scoring criteria.

- The white paper has been delivered to Paul Rush and Fred will contact him to see his availability for the July or August WAC meetings.
- Land Owner Protocol Policy
Motion to approve the Land Owner Protocol Policy
Motion: Bill Coleman
Second: John Schwartz
Approved
- The Executive Committee has begun the performance assessment of the Executive Director and will report back at the July WAC Board meeting.
- Tours – Today 35 people from India who were mostly foresters were given a WAC tour. WAC has generated a tremendous amount of interest internationally to this program. Some concern has been expressed as to the quantity of free services provided for our pro-active efforts in keeping the water clean. Also mentioned was the possibility of WAC receiving compensation for tours given and how much staff time is used. Tara is the lead on all tours.

VI. Finance Committee – Bill Coleman and Thomas Artale

- The April financials were distributed in the monthly packets.
Motion to accept the Aprils Financial Statement on the recommendation of the Finance Committee
Second: Dave Cammer
Approved
- The Proposed FY11 Budget was distributed in the monthly packets. The DSA report had suggested moving Travel and Training from Administration to Program Mgrs. Last year with so much unsettled the DEP rejected the idea, and suggested visiting the issue at a later date. Thanks to the hiring of Craig and Larry Hulle the DEP (John Schwartz) now has no objection to our moving forward and breaking these expenses out into program areas.
Motion to approve the FY11 Budget to include the approval of providing each program area with individual funding lines for Travel and Training.
Motion: Bill Coleman
Second: Ken Smith
Approved
 Some funding will be kept in an administration line for the Executive Director to use at his discretion.
- As it is the end of the fiscal year, Thomas encouraged all Directors to submit their reimbursement requests no later than July 15th.

VII. NYC DEP Report – John Schwartz

Nothing to report at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.