

Approved Minutes
Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust
Meeting
February 27, 2025

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm, by D. McNaughton. Members present were D. McNaughton, N. Cabot, N. Levine, M. Steers, W. Montgomery, and S. Souza.

A. Wallack was absent.

2.) Executive session pursuant to RIGL Section 42-46-5(a)(2) potential litigation:

1.) Potential Litigation

Motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Potential Litigation pursuant to RIGL Section 42-46-5(a)(2) made by N.L. Second by N.C. 6-0 approve.

(Members were polled individually regarding the motion and voted as follows: (D.M. – yes, N.C.-yes, N.L. – yes, S.S. – yes, W.M.- yes, M.S.-yes,).

Entered into Executive Session at 6:01pm.

3.) Return to Public Session: Returned to Public Session at 6:35p.m.

4.) Vote to seal the minutes of Executive Session: Motion to seal the minutes of Executive Session made by M.S. Second by N.L. 6-0 approve.

5.) Preparation for presentation to Town Council: The presentation to be made to the Town Council was discussed. Suggestions included focusing on the question that the Town Council asked regarding LCACT obtaining an opinion from legal counsel as to LCACT’s ability to participate in multi-purpose acquisitions. Counsel has advised that the focus of acquisitions must be that LCACT acts in service to its mission.

D. McNaughton will request to present at the Town Council at its March 6, 2025, meeting.

Future presentations to the Town Council could focus on the Enabling Legislation, scoring methodology, hierarchy of properties being considered.

6.) Operations Manager Job Summary: D. McNaughton explained that there are a number of items that LCACT needs to do, that are not getting completed or that it takes a significant amount of time to complete. Having an Operations Manager could be helpful in moving things along.

N. Levine emphasized that this is a draft job summary. There are things that trustees enjoy doing but the amount of work can be overwhelming. The work therefore doesn’t get done or may not get done well. For example, without professional support it is almost impossible to initiate a communication plan with any frequency or accuracy.

W. Montgomery expressed that he agrees with hiring someone to write newsletters and grants, but the rest of the work trustees do. He suggested that LCACT does not need anyone to negotiate deals as that is the responsibility of the trustees. He enjoys doing the stewardship work. He

questioned the need for a budget given how the Trust operates. LCACT is all about protecting land.

S. Souza expressed support for a writer/PR person to assist with communicating with the public.

M. Steers suggested that each trustee review the Job Summary for the next meeting and eliminate the items that C. Cady does and others do that trustees are happy with. The focus can then be on what is not being completed and work that may need to be added.

W. Montgomery also suggested that LCACT does not know enough about putting farmers on land. He suggested that perhaps the Westport Land Trust could come speak with LCACT.

The Job Summary will be reviewed in a meeting in a month. Long term and short-term objectives need to be developed to determine where we are taking the Trust.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by N.L. Second by N.C. 6-0 approve.

Adjourned 7:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Cady