

*Approved Minutes*  
**Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust**  
**Meeting**  
**May 22, 2025**

**1.) Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, by D. McNaughton. Members present were D. McNaughton, M. Steers, N. Cabot, N. Levine, W. Montgomery, and S. Souza.

A. Wallack absent.

**2.) Use of Sakonnet Vineyards (Plat 22, Lots 8-5 thru 8-9 and 8-11, 8-13, 8-14):** The Little Compton Republican Town Committee requested permission to hold an antique car show at the Vineyard on June 8, 2025. At the May 7, 2025, LCACT meeting the matter was referred to the Executive Committee for determination. Mr. Mike Rocha and Mr. James David from the Vineyard met and determined a location for the event. The Executive Committee has approved the request and the event will be held on a portion of lot 8-11.

Motion to allow the Little Compton Republican Town Committee to hold the antiques car show at Sakonnet Vineyards as recommended by the Executive Committee made by N.C. Second by W.M. 6-0 approve.

**3.) Presentation by Nail Communication Inc.:** Members from Nail Communication outlined and defined their communication recommendation. They explained their process used to form their recommendations. The process included interviews with seven members of the public. Part of the process was to learn how LCACT works and how the community feels about LCACT. Nail analyzed the challenges and use these to make their communication recommendations.

M. Steers expressed that the Trust's mission is to protect and conserve farms by buying development rights. With an easement the farm is protected, the farmer retains their house, there is money to reinvest in the farm, there is succession planning, they are tax paying residents of the Town.

The resident farmer is the solution and is 80% of the Trust's holdings.

Nail recommendations include:

- Taking the focus off the land and place it on the people,
- Act more transparent and inclusively,
- Explain that LCACT doesn't conserve land for itself; it's for the community,
- Insert LCACT into the town ie the role it has in shaping Little Compton's future.

The messaging platform should be that LCACT's job is to keeping land working so that Little Compton works too. A starting point would be to create a manifesto to express LCACT's purpose and that saving agriculture is its priority.

Nail outlined five tracks as part of the communication strategy. They are:

Track 1: LCACT by the community and for the community – Ask for people's participation in a survey.

Track 2: Signs place on conserved farmland with an explanation of “what’s in it for you”.

Track 3: Ag land is central to Little Compton’s history and future.

Track 4: LCACT has been successful.

Track 5: Conservation and progress go hand in hand.

N. Levine explained that Natalie Jackvony will use this information to help create LCACT communications.

Through interviews it has become evident that the public feels:

- That LCACT is in bed with the wealthy, helping to preserve their views,
- LCACT lacks transparency,
- LCACT’s commitment to farmers is not always sincere,
- There are questions regarding how the land is steward.

As a follow-up to this meeting, Natalie Jackvony has been asked to attend the next LCAT meeting on June 4, 2025. She has been asked to prepare suggestions of things LCACT can start to do and a timeline and budget.

It was suggested that a survey might be the place to start.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl Cady