

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Schoharie Land Trust Board of Directors was called to order by Ken Hotopp at 7:38 PM at the Cooperative Extension Office in Cobleskill on 19 March 1992.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elliott Adams  
Ken Hotopp  
Eugene McCaffrey Mary Jo O'Donnell  
Karl Westphal

Catherine Harwood

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Dan Schuppel  
Ford

Sandra Scouten-

Robert Smith

John Townsend

MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Mauhs  
Betty Lou Bailey

Craig Mausler

MINUTES of the 20 February 1992 meeting was approved as corrected. 501C3 - As authorized at the last meeting, Dan Schuppel has been

perusing possible attorneys, so far with no luck. Since Dan is on vacation and time is running out, John Mauhs was authorized to pursue the resubmitting of the application. Eugene McCaffrey moved and it was carried unanimously, that John Mauhs be authorized to pay \$500 for legal council if necessary.

CSA PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING - CSA Committee met as planned. Dan Schuppel, Sandra Scouten-Ford, Archer Ford, Mary Jo O'Donnell, Mike Welch, and Gale Riggs were present. Do to lack of support, no plans were made. Ken Hotopp offered to see if he could find some support for a public informational meeting.

VECA CONTRIBUTION - Ken Hotopp was authorized to send a thank you letter of thanks to Keith Parslow and to include an honorary membership.

CATSKILL CENTER VROOMAN'S NOSE FIELD TRIP - Plans continue to develop. The Catskill Center field trip which is being cosponsored by the SLT will be to Vrooman's Nose on 23 May 1992. It will start with a history of the Schoharie Valley on Walley Van Houten's front porch at 10:00 AM..

FINANCIAL REPORT - There have been no changes.

ANNUAL MEETING - The annual meeting has been scheduled for 30 April 1992 at 7:30 PM in the Cooperative extension if it is available. ANNUAL REPORT OF DIRECTORS, as required by law, will be prepared by the finance

Committee. For this reason, it has been requested that members of the finance committee not be put on the nominating committee. NOMINATING COMMITTEE will be chaired by Robert Smith, pending his acceptance. Two other members will be appointed.

THE O'DONNELLS - Mary Jo O'Donnell has generously suggested that she would consider putting an easement on her property. This will be taken up by the Land Acquisition and Maintenance Committee. Elliott Adams will get the project work sheet to the committee members.

FARM LAND TRUST MEMBERSHIP - A motion was made by Karl Westphal, it was seconded and carried, that SLT become a member of American Farm Land Trust. A motion was made by Eugene McCaffrey authorizing Mary Jo O'Donnell to research organizational memberships in the AFLT and expend up to \$50 on such a membership.

PROTECT THE SCHOHARIE RIVER - Mrs. Betty Lou Bailey of the Schenectady Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club kindly came out to our meeting to suggest an answer to a plaguing problem; is there some way to protect the Schoharie Valley from the perennial attacks. It seems that no sooner have the residents of the valley defended themselves from one "multi-national corporation", another one marches on the valley with some new scheme for destruction. Mrs. Bailey suggested working to get Recreational River Status for the Schoharie Creek. She had some concrete information and suggestions on the process. Schoharie Creek meets the two requirements of being outstanding and being free-flowing, at least below the Gilboa dam. The key to having a successful and beneficial project maybe to do the project backwards. Instead of going for approval and then making a management plan, she suggested that first a study be done, and then management plan be put together. Then start the application process, so while going through that process everyone, including the general public, will know what the plan will be, this will help to ameliorate the effects of the fears and rumors. She suggested writing into the plan that the local Governments do all permitting; actually the State even encourages maximized local control. She also suggested going for State approval first then get the Governor to petition the Secretary of Interior for Federal approval. This is an easier approach than trying to go directly for

Federal

approval. While Recreational River Status will allow for much greater control of the Valley, the law specifically states that all exiting legal land uses will be grand fathered in. Two examples of this process are: a good example- the Wild Cat Brook in New Hampshire, a bad example- the Upper Delaware Rivers in New York and New Jersey. By general consent, the project and the informational packet Mrs. Bailey brought were passed on to VECA through Catherine Harwood.

NEXT MEETING - The next meeting will be the annual meeting on 30 April 1992, from 7:30 pm at the Cooperative Extension Office in Cobleskill if it is available.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 pm.

Elliott D. S.  
Adams  
Recording  
Secretary