

2015 TACF MA/RI Annual Meeting

December 6, 2014

S. Kingston Land Trust Barn

Rhode Island

Board Members:

Yvonne Federowicz, President, Lois Melican, Vice-President, Kathy Desjardins, Secretary, Mike Novak, Treasurer, Denis Melican, Rufin VanBossuyt, Rich Hoffman, Jamie Donald, Brad Smith, Brian Clark, Paul Wetzal, John Emery, Mike Miexell

Guests: Dr. Gray Curtis, Mike Grames, Dr. Paul Sisco, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Kohn, Callena Donald,

10:30	Meeting opened
Forestry NEFF, Littleton	The orchard manager has moved, and this orchard needs a new manager. Some of these trees here have been evaluated, and some need to be removed, Jamie is willing to work on this.
Legal Agreements	MOU and Germplasm agreement w. MassWildlife has been signed; the field has been cleared, plowed twice, Jamie has designed the fence layout, Brian will get the supplies. We could put in fence posts now, at least on 2 sides, the land will be disked one more time. We haven't had any movement on the future Orange orchard.
CEO	We will have a new CEO soon, which may solidify National's status.
Board member information	As we have Paul Wetzal as a new board member, this would be a great time to update our information on each Board Member. Being a board member comes with serious responsibilities, and Yvonne passed out material that we each need to read and understand. These topics are: TRUST - we get donations from people and need to use this toward our mission. INFORMATION – we all have the right to information we have in meeting notices, financial records, etc. CONFLICE OF INTEREST – this could come up; so far we have not have any problems with this. FINANCIAL – we should have a more defined budgeting process, Mike Novak said we used to do this, now it is time for us to revisit this. BYLAWS – we need to put changes that we've made into a document that we will file, or any other bylaw changes. These could be approved at our winter meeting

	RESOURCES – Mass has lots of information on their website.
Winter Meeting	Set for Sunday, January 25 th with the following Sunday Feb 1 as a rain date.
Signage	Denis Melican spoke with Ruth, the new communication director at National about the wording for Springside Park’s orchard sign in Pittsfield, we have more liberty that we thought in the wording. Denis will work on this.
Elections	All the names on the ballot were approved except one negative vote for President cast by a disgruntled Board Member from Spencer.
Election 2014	Move that we approved the election results and the bylaw change.
National	We have a nominee to be CEO this past Monday, several people have retired from the board, and now there is the title of director emeritus, Paul Sisco, Rufin, Bill Lord and Hugh Owen. The proposed nominee is a woman involved with Nature Conservancy with experience in philanthropy. there are also 2 new board members, Carter Patton Chattanooga TN, and Dr. Penny Firth, from the National Science Foundation.