

Summary 09/21/2011
7PM
Lower Connecticut River and Coastal Region Land Trust Exchange
CRERPA Office
455 Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook, CT

Attendees:

Gregg Mirando – Clinton Land Trust
Kristin Elliott Leas – Westbrook Land Conservation Trust
Cindy Sullivan – Haddam Land Trust
Gail Reynolds – Haddam Land Trust
Melvin Woody – Ct River Land Trust
Wini Olson – Essex Land Trust
Harvey Thomas – East Haddam Land Trust
Mark Leas – Westbrook Land Trust
Tom Elliott – Westbrook Land Trust
Christina Clayton – Old Lyme Land Trust
Sara Keaney – Old Saybrook Land Trust
Emery Gluck - Cockaponset State Forester
Fritz Gahagan – Wallace, Smith, and Palmer

For the September meeting the Lower Connecticut River and Coastal Region Land Trust Exchange (LTE) was visited by Atty Frederick B. Gahagan of Waller, Smith, & Palmer, P.C.. for the 2nd of a series of workshops he will be working on with the group. Atty Gahagan has focused his practice on working with private land owners to maintain ownership of their land and creating permanent conservation plans for their properties. His presentation focused on Form 8283 issues, gift acknowledgment letters, and notice letter on review of appraisals. If any member land trusts would like to hear more concerning this presentation please contact Margot Burns at CRERPA.

Emery Gluck, DEEP Forester for Cockaponset and Nehantic State Forest presented for comment his Cockaponset Forest Management Plan, *“Cockaponset Management Goals and Proposed Indicators”*. Emery is working on Bio Indicators for his Cockaponset Management plan and is seeking comments on his proposed indicators or suggestions for alternative indicators. Because Cockaponset State Forest is the backbone and the core of the forest resource in the LTE these indicators or broad management principals could be useful to include in your own forest management plans and provide the region with a standard methodology of bio-diversity assessment.

Concluding discussion concerned the return of Keith Ross from the New England Forest Foundation to further discuss their easement aggregation program and the invasive water chestnut that has been found in the lower river near Deep River. The land trusts were asked to monitor their town’s water ways for it.

The next meeting of the LTE will be held Nov. 16th, 2011.