

LCHIP

Land & Community Heritage
Investment Program



Board of Directors Grant Selection Meeting

Amanda Merrill, Board Chair

NH Fish & Game Department, 11 Hazen Drive, Concord NH

Thursday, November 15, 2018

Approved at January 14, 2019 BOD Meeting

Attendance

Voting members: Colin Cabot, Doug Cole, Chick Colony, Martha Fuller Clark, Harold Janeway, Neal Kurk, Dick Lewis, Mandy Merrill, Susan Slack, Judith Spang (until 9:45am), Ben Wilcox

Nonvoting members: Jared Chicoine (until noon), Rich Cook, Susan Francher, Beth Muzzey, Pierce Rigrod, Brad Simpkins, Stephen Walker (9:20am arrival)

LCHIP Staff: Barb Beers, Paula Bellemore, George Born, Dijit Taylor

Review Panelist: Ben Wilson

Introductions – None needed

Review/modify agenda – No modifications

Minutes of September 25, 2018 BOD Meeting

No changes were proposed.

MOTION	To accept the minutes from the September 25, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting	Harold Janeway
SECOND		Colin Cabot
VOTE		Approved unanimously

Financial Items

Board ratification of Executive Director signing lease for new office – New landlord requires Board ratification of the executive director signing 5-year lease for the new office. LCHIP will also pay for increases in property taxes which is standard for this kind of commercial lease.

MOTION	To ratify Executive Director Dijit Taylor signing 5-year lease for the new office at 3 N Spring St, Concord.	Martha Fuller Clark
SECOND		Ben Wilcox
VOTE		Approved unanimously

Update on Trust Fund and CCE – No discussion on the written updates provided in meeting packet.

Trust Fund (income): Jul - Oct 2018	\$1,437,096	Jul - Oct 2017	\$1,467,865
CCE (balance): Oct 2018	\$4,462,987	Oct 2017	\$4,219,826

Project Action Request

Enfield, Smith Pond Shaker Forest Extension waiver request

Upper Valley Land Trust (UVLT) is seeking an exception to standard deed language for fee-owned properties conserved with assistance from LCHIP. Staff feels this change may require a more in-depth discussion than is possible during the November grant selection meeting and recommends an extension be given to provide time for LCHIP to fully consider this request.

MOTION	To extend the grant expiration date for Smith Pond Shaker Forest to June 30, 2019.	Doug Cole
SECOND		Harold Janeway
VOTE		Approved unanimously

Grant Selection Information

Conflict/Information list:

Mandy distributed a table summarizing participants conflicts and related information pertaining to project proposals to be considered.

Grant Round 17 (2018) LCHIP Board Conflicts and Connections		
Name	Conflict	Information Item
Colin Cabot	Shaker village	
Sen Bob Giuda		Represents towns that would benefit from projects: Orford, Tilton, Plymouth
Neal Kurk		Member and former officer of PLC, lives in Weare (Weare French project)
Dick Lewis		Lives in Plymouth (Webster Courthouse)
Amanda Merrill		Lives in Durham (Community church, Lamprey River, Lubberland Creek) Belongs to SELT (Farmington, Scruton), SPNH (Northfield Stillhouse), TNC (Lamprey River, Lubberland Creek)
Elizabeth Muzzey		Lives in Concord (Kimball Jenkins) and is member of NHPA (block grants)
Susan Slack		Applicant (Tuftonboro Conservation Commission Chair) is Commissioner and member of Susan's employer's Executive Board No direct connection, but these towns with projects pay dues to her employer: Belmont, Gilmanton, Moultonborough, Plymouth, Tilton, Wolfeboro
Judith Spang	Plans to abstain from voting on Lamprey River for personal reasons	Lives in Durham, probably member of some applicant organizations.
Dijit Taylor		Belongs to Forest Society (Northfield Stillhouse), Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust (Bath Chamberlin) and Preservation Alliance (Block Grants)
Ben Wilson	On Board of New Hampshire Preservation Alliance	

Board members with conflicts are allowed to stay in the room during discussion to provide information, but cannot vote on individual motions for projects with which they have a conflict.

(Per LCHIP counsel, they can vote on a slate of projects that includes the one with which they have a conflict.) Mandy stressed the need to take the views of the Review Panelists into consideration.

Finance Committee recommendation

Doug presents the Finance Committee recommendation that the Board allocate \$3.9 million to grant making. The budgeted amount for FY19 grant awards is \$3.5 million, but an additional \$400,000 is available from withdrawn projects and projects coming in under budget. This proposal also includes up to \$450,000 for deposit in the Community Conservation Endowment (CCE) for projects receiving funding in this grant round.

Judith questioned the amount of money needed for the CCE and how the amount to set aside is determined. Others agreed with the concern but felt this was not the time to work that through. The formula for calculating CCE deposits is part of the long-anticipated revision of the *LCHIP Criteria, Guidelines and Procedures* document. Judith emphasized the need to accomplish this before the next grant round. Mandy suggested that anyone interested in helping with the revisions should let her or Dijit know of their interest.

MOTION	To allocate up to \$3.9 million in grant awards.	Doug Cole
SECOND		Neal Kurk
VOTE		Approved unanimously

Slide show

Process Overview

- Dijit pointed out that the selection criteria were distributed in the board packet and that Review Panels had considered these when making recommendations.
- Projects will initially be considered as groups based on Review Panel ranking, starting with the highest ranked projects (5 stars) and working down through the lower rankings. Individual projects may be moved from ranking to ranking and discussed separately. The goal is to reach an agreed-upon slate of projects and take a single vote at the end of the meeting to affirm all decisions. Separate votes on individual projects can take place if needed.
- All outcomes are to be kept confidential until the announcement event in December.

Projects

- George and Paula presented project information and shared Review Panel insights and varying opinions about each of the 58 projects.

Board Discussion

Board members discussed each group of projects and details of many individual projects. Some of the discussion points:

Bartlett, St. Joseph’s Church’s ambitious project might benefit from a phased approach, starting perhaps with the most serious need, the roof.

Canterbury Shaker Village’s request is an unusual one but serves an important purpose. LCHIP would like to see more commitment to cleaning up and interpreting the related historic dam.

Several projects would benefit from historic structure reports (or more detailed such reports): Chesterfield Historical Society, Claremont City Hall, Durham church, Fitzwilliam Town Hall,

Kensington Church, Orford Masonic Hall

Ownership of The Conservation Fund's project in Croydon, Grantham and Newport is expected to be transferred to the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department.

Board expressed interest in the future management of the Gorham Community Forest, specifically around the issue of ATV use. Staff is directed to include, as a condition of any grant award, the following requirements: that LCHIP be informed of any proposed changes in land management and have an opportunity to provide early feedback on development of, or revisions to, the community forest management plan and, that LCHIP, the Town and any other interest holders meet annually to discuss management plans for the property.

Milton Library will require a professional historic structures report before seeking any further LCHIP funding.

The proposed second egress from the second floor of Swanzey's Whitcomb Hall must be done in a way that better meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

Disagreeing with the outcome of a planning study that LCHIP helped to fund and approved of is tricky (Claremont, Wolfeboro)

After all the discussion, the board voted on awards

MOTION	To fund the following projects in the amounts indicated below.	Susan Slack
SECOND		Doug Cole
VOTE		Approved unanimously

Project	Recipient	Grant Request	Amount Awarded
Albany, Whitton Pond	Upper Saco Valley Land Trust	\$125,000	\$125,000
Alstead, Chase's Mill 2	Mill Hollow Heritage Association	\$150,000	\$150,000
Bartlett, St. Joseph's	Bartlett Historical Society	\$225,000	\$31,519
Bath, Chamberlain	Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust	\$56,250	\$0
Belmont, Gale School	Save Our Gale School	\$110,000	\$110,000
Brookfield, Snow Family CE	Moose Mountains Regional Greenways	\$75,000	\$65,000
Canterbury, Millpond Dam	Canterbury Shaker Village	\$97,339	\$97,339
Charlestown, Silsby Library	Town of Charlestown, Silsby Library Trustees	\$100,000	\$100,000
Chesterfield, Evans Farm	Monadnock Conservancy	\$90,000	\$50,000
Chesterfield, Stone House	Chesterfield Historical Society	\$25,000	\$10,000
Claremont, City Hall	City of Claremont	\$289,250	\$0
Columbia, Shrine Planning Study	Great North Woods Committee for the Arts	\$24,750	\$7,500

Concord, Kimball Jenkins Mansion	Carolyn L. Jenkins Charitable Trust	\$202,000	\$202,000
Croydon, Grantham, Newport, North Branch Sugar River Conservation	The Conservation Fund	\$200,000	\$200,000
Deerfield, Town Forest Expansion	Bear-Paw Regional Greenways with the Town of Deerfield	\$28,000	\$28,000
Durham, Church	Community Church of Durham	\$20,685	\$0
Durham, Lamprey River	The Nature Conservancy	\$120,000	\$50,000
Durham, Lubberland Creek	The Nature Conservancy	\$80,000	\$70,000
Epsom, Town Forest Expansion	Bear-Paw Regional Greenways with the Town of Epsom	\$47,000	\$47,000
Exeter, Ladd-Gilman	American Independence Museum	\$80,000	\$80,000
Exeter, Wiggin-Raynes 2	Town of Exeter	\$105,000	\$0
Farmington, Church	Farmington First Congregational Church	\$100,000	\$70,000
Farmington, Scruton's Dairy	Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire	\$242,500	\$240,000
Fitzwilliam Town Hall	Town of Fitzwilliam	\$175,000	\$10,000
Francestown Church	Community Church of Francestown	\$50,000	\$0
Francestown, Abbottville Farm	Francestown Land Trust, Inc.	\$75,000	\$50,000
Gilmanton, Meetinghouse	First Congregational Society in Gilmanton	\$24,950	\$0
Gorham, Town Forest Expansion	The Conservation Fund w/ Town of Gorham	\$400,000	\$300,000
Goshen Grange	Town of Goshen	\$95,385	\$95,385
Keene, Ball Mansion	Historical Society of Cheshire County	\$23,825	\$23,825
Kensington Church	Kensington Congregational Church Trustees	\$160,000	\$0
Langdon Church Planning Study	Langdon Congregational Church	\$9,646	\$9,646
Lebanon, Kendrick-Wood	Upper Valley Music Center	\$97,789	\$97,789
Milan, Community Forest Gateway	The Conservation Fund w/ Milan Community Forest Committee	\$250,000	\$220,000
Milton Free Library 4	Town of Milton	\$36,357	\$36,357
Moultonborough, Castle 5	Castle Preservation Society	\$85,000	\$0
N. Hampton, Centennial 2	Friends of Centennial Hall, Inc (FOCH)	\$300,000	\$200,000
New Durham, Birch Ridge Community Forest	Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire	\$400,000	\$350,000
Northfield, Canterbury, Stillhouse Forest	Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests	\$91,666	\$91,666
Orford Masonic Hall	Mt Cube Masonic Association	\$21,413	\$0
Orford, Brackett Brook Farm	Upper Valley Land Trust, Inc.	\$60,000	\$40,000

Peterborough, Cunningham Pond	Monadnock Conservancy	\$250,000	\$0
Plymouth, Webster Courthouse	Young Ladies Library Association	\$69,500	\$69,500
Portsmouth, Langdon House Planning Study	Historic New England	\$15,000	\$0
Portsmouth, Women's Club	GFWC Portsmouth Women's City Club	\$44,000	\$44,000
Rindge, Ingalls Library	Town of Rindge	\$16,500	\$16,500
Rochester Opera House 2	Rochester Opera House, Inc.	\$50,000	\$50,000
Rye, St. Andrew's 2	St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea	\$35,128	\$0
Statewide, Block Grant for Planning Studies 7	New Hampshire Preservation Alliance	\$50,000	\$50,000
Sugar Hill, St. Matthew's	St. Matthew's Chapel	\$75,000	\$50,000
Swanzey, Whitcomb Hall	Town of Swanzey	\$200,000	\$150,000
Tilton Mansion Planning Study	Tilton School	\$9,250	\$9,250
Tuftonboro, Great Meadow CE	Tuftonboro Cons. Commission	\$72,500	\$72,500
Walpole, Bridge Library	Bridge Memorial Library	\$49,000	\$0
Walpole, Walker Road	Town of Walpole	\$45,000	\$0
Weare, French Preserve	Piscataquog Land Conservancy	\$123,000	\$0
Winchester Church Planning Study	Town of Winchester	\$4,500	\$0
Wolfeboro Freight Shed	Lakes Region Model Railroad Museum	\$225,000	\$130,000
Total		\$6,282,183	\$3,899,776

Other Business

Neal Kurk and Rich Cook will be leaving the LCHIP Board. Both of them were valuable Board members. Mandy expressed LCHIP's appreciation of their service and presented each one with a gift.

Public Comments

Adjourn: 3:20pm

Next Meeting: Monday, Jan 14, 2019 2:30—4:30 p.m. (snow date Friday Jan 18)
Kimball Jenkins Carriage House Concord NH

Respectfully Submitted

Barbara A. Beers
LCHIP Office Manager

Amanda Merrill
LCHIP Board Chair