

CT-TACF Minutes Board Meeting March 29 2008

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To: PHILIP ARNOLD DR <arnold_philip_dr@sbcglobal.net>, Leila Pinchot <leila@acf.org>, David Bingham <dbbingham@sbcglobal.net>, Ellery 'Woods' Sinclair <wml61@comcast.net>, "Garrett A. Smith" <roarpine@sunlink.net>, Gayle Kida <gayle7258@myway.com>, James Gage <jameswgage@sbcglobal.net>, John Anderson <johnanderson7440@sbcglobal.net>, Micheal McGee <michael.mcgee@pw.utc.com>, Robert Gregg <drbob007@skybridge.com>

Philip:

Thank you taking and writing up the minutes at the meeting in Guilford.

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Minutes Connecticut Chapter of TACF - March 29, 2008 Guilford CT Town Hall

Directors Present: Phil Arnold, Bill Adamsen, Jim Gage, Robert Gregg, Gayle Kida, Ellery Sinclair, Garrett Smith, Michael McGee, David Bingham, John Anderson

Also Present: Jack Ostroff, Jennifer Allcock

Important Note: the Membership and Board Meetings followed a well attended "open" presentation to interested parties in Guilford.

Call to Order: 12:30pm

General Election: The following Directors have agreed to serve additional two-year terms: Jim Gage, Robert Gregg, Phil Arnold, David Bingham, Garrett Smith and Jennifer Allcock.

Review of Minutes: Minutes of the CT-TACF December 15, 2007 meeting approved.

Nominations Presented: Officers of 2008 as follows; President-Adamsen, Vice President-McGee, Secretary-Arnold, Treasurer-Gage. Jennifer Allcock Elected to Ct ACF board.

Presidents Report: (Bill Adamsen)

- Report from National ACF meeting in Virginia. Goals
 - Develop as pure a resistant American Chestnut as possible using every means possible
 - Long time supporters will get the first resistant nuts for planting
 - Develop a plan for restoration of resistant trees to the forest.
- Marshall Case will retire in 2008 and a national search for a successor will begin.
- The national office will move from Vermont to Harpers Ferry, Virginia. This will be in the center of the American Chestnut range and 300 miles from the Meadow view research facility.
- The staff will add a full time Development Director and possibly a Communication Director.
- A grant from an anonymous foundation for 5,000 dollars has been submitted for the fencing at the Great Mountain Forest orchard.
- The draft of the news letter was passed around for comments.

Treasurers report: (Jim Gage)

- There is a \$14,980 dollar balance in the Chapter account.
- \$5,700 dollars for fencing were removed from the balance sheet as the fences are up in the orchards.
- It is hoped that Northeast Utilities will continue to support the Ct ACF. They gave 6,300 dollars last year.
- The IRS filing has been completed and the Ct.
- State tax filing is due in June. The electronic filing, form 990N, is easy as our income is less than 25,000 dollars.
- We need to seek more grant money (ie Bafflin foundation) for projects in the future.
- The treasurers report and the balance sheet were accepted and the budget for 2008 was approved by the Board.
- Memberships were enhanced by the offering of a membership promotion where new or renewing members could acquire "Mighty Giants" or "American Chestnut: The Life, death, rebirth..." Whereas a regular membership costs \$40 dollars, the enhanced regular membership is 60 dollars for one book and 80 dollars for both books. Five memberships have been received where the member took two books.

Breeding and orchard supply report: (Gayle Kida)

- Supplies for the planting season are completed. Nut allocations are set.
- Planting dates tentatively are as follows:
 - Woodbridge 4/12/08,
 - Stafford 4/15/08,
 - NCLT 4/26/08,
 - Guilford 5/3/08,
 - Great Mountain 5/27/08. The

- Guilford fencing date is 4/19/08.
- Various techniques for orchard care were discussed. Arnold and Bingham stated that predigging holes for seed placement aided first year growth.
- Setting up a system for resistant seedling care and planting was discussed.
- A prospective orchard was identified for 2008 in East Caanan, (Wheaton Byers)
- ACTION ITEM; Leila and Bill will contact Vo Ag schools to develop interest in a seedling program.
- It was suggested that long tubes and/or manure pots could be used for seedlings to protect root systems from damage during transplanting as the chestnut has a deep tap root.
- The Chapter will need to develop sites for restoration plantings in the future. The DEP, Water companys and land trusts were suggested as possible sources.

Communications and Membership: (Bill Adamsen)

- The web site is functioning well and being used as a resource.
- Leila Pinchot will leave for graduate work at The University of Tennessee in August. The new coordinator for New England, Kendra Gurney, will be stationed in Vermont.
- It was suggested we talk to Great Mountain Forest about buying time from their summer student for pollination and orchard tasks. This would save us much paper work.

Bylaws: (John Anderson)

- John presented his work on the Bylaws. Discussion led to 2 major points both of which will require drafting by John for submission to the entire Chapter for vote.
 1. The annual meeting will be held at a time set by the CT Chapter board (as opposed to the current language requiring a March date).
 2. The board can be extended to have up to 20 members.

Respectfully, Philip B. Arnold M.D.
