

**BETHLEHEM LAND TRUST BOARD**  
**Minutes—February 8, 2012**

**Call to Order:** 7:15 p.m.

**Present:** Lynn Baker, Mary Hawvermale, Bev Mosch, Stuart Rabinowitz, Anneke Rothman, Sandra Ruzicka, Carol Spier, Trish Traver, Bob Ueberbacher; Jean Melita and Steve Sabatini

**Secretary's report:** The December minutes were corrected thus: Date of meeting was Dec 14, not Dec 8, and in Storm Damage section, name of school is Woodhall, not Woodhull. Minutes for December were accepted as amended; minutes for January were accepted as submitted.

**Treasurer's report:** Bob passed out a year-end summary (breakout is at end of minutes). In brief: the taxes have been paid on the Sherlock property. The dinner/auction took in about \$19,000 and netted approximately \$10,300. Our funds include two checking accounts for operations (one for the Sherlock property) totaling approximately \$10,000; a CD worth approximately \$1,800; a money market fund worth approximately \$39,000 (committed to stewardship of the Bellamy Preserve); and about \$196,500 in three accounts for land acquisition (of which ±\$51K is in a CD). Total is just under \$250,000.

Bev requested that on future summaries the accounts be "named" more intuitively so we can assess them more easily.

A motion was made to accept the report; motion was seconded; all in favor.

**Old Business:**

**Land Acquisition Committee:** The committee is investigating whether there might be a second and more attractive public access to one of the properties we are interested in and we are ready to move forward with contacting property owners in the areas of most interest to us. LAC plans to meet week of Feb 13 and again as needed, and is enlisting Mary's assistance at this time.

**Strategic Plan:** We quickly reviewed the plan and discussed the need to make an action plan for this year. Overall the feeling is top priorities are a) building the board; b) having effective stewardship; and c) getting our website up to par. Also, fulfilling our commitment to education where we can. As part of the board-building discussion we talked about having a group of advisors with specific skills on call if we did not have these skills on the board: this is detailed in the plan under Goal 4 (action 4a, 6th bullet point); we amended the wording of this point as follows:

- Establish a ~~Board of Advisors~~ an Advisory Council to supplement or provide skills and knowledge not possessed by Board of Directors

We agreed we each need to review the plan individually and we will discuss again at the next meeting. (An updated copy will be distributed after the March meeting).

**New Business:**

**An Office:** We all would like to have an office. Mary mentioned the small building across the side street from Sunny Ridge market (on the market, owned by ATT, Bev suggested they might have a charitable department interested in doing something for us). The small building at the intersection of Main Street and Flanders Road is another possibility.

**Website:** Stuart to contact Marianne Greco to see if she would be interested in bringing it up to par.

**Monitoring and Stewardship:** Mary is compiling new notebooks for this. We are all urged to do roadside cleanup, especially along the Bellamy Preserve.

**Conflict of Interest:** We each signed the conflict of interest form. It was noted that once a person acknowledges a potential conflict pertaining to any item under discussion, that person should leave the room whenever that item is discussed so the discussion can proceed without inhibition.

**Executive Committee:** We would like to form an executive committee consisting of the officers of the board so that said officers can meet without advertising advance notice. Everyone is to review the bylaws to try to understand what is needed to make this possible.

**Voting by email:** Voting by email is not permissible under Robert's Rules of Association. However, the Board needs to be able to quickly take action on matters of public safety (e.g. storm damage on trails) or emergency repairs of Sherlock. Everyone who has a relationship to other groups similar to BLT is to research guidelines permitting this they use, so that we can compose an amendment to the bylaws permitting it in times of need.

**New Members:** Steve Sabatini and Jean Melita, visiting this evening, would like to join the board. It was moved, seconded, and accepted that we appoint them. Welcome Steve and Jean!

**Dinner/Auction 2012:** Jordan Caterers have requested a deposit of \$750 to reserve their services for the next dinner. It was moved, seconded, and approved that the money be sent to them on receipt of an invoice for same.

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. ...all in favor.

**Respectfully Submitted:** Carol Spier

BETHLEHEM LAND TRUST  
2011 Year End Account Summary (prepared Feb 2012)

TSB Checking	\$2918.20
TSB 0238 (120) (for Sherlock)	7193.52
TSB "Seeds" (CD)	1887.02
USB/ PW-Bellamy (stewardship, money market fund)	38933.41
TSB "B" (land acquisition)	100,353.24
TSB "B-2" (land acquisition, CD)	50,921.46
T. Rowe Price (land acquisition, mutual fund)	45,265.30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$247,472.15</b>