

**BETHLEHEM LAND TRUST BOARD MEETING**  
**Minutes—October 8, 2014**

**Present:** Lynn Baker, Emily Eisen, Mary Hawvermale, Doug Mahard, Jean Melita, Mark Miller, Beverly Mosch, Stuart Rabinowitz, Vera Rosa, Sandra Ruzicka, Steve Sabatini, Carol Spier, John Swendsen, Bob Ueberbacher

**Call to Order:** 7:00 p.m.

**Secretary's report:** The September 2014 minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's report:** Response to the annual appeal/newsletter continues to be good. Donors have made larger contributions on average than we have had in the past. We have enough money in the operating account to cover upcoming insurance and auction dinner expenses.

**Old Business:**

**Dinner/Auction:** Stuart has things under control. Sandy has the décor started. Carol has the invitations in the works.

**Accreditation:** Mary explained her discussions with Weantinogue, the largest Land Trust in the state. They are working on becoming accredited and have solved many of the problems we would face were we to undertake this: They have created a template for fulfilling the requirements where the record keeping and monitoring have not been all they should be and they are offering to share information and provide some guidance. Of immediate concern would be the reserve funds needed (\$3K per property, with an ultimate reserve of \$50K) should we have to defend an encroachment. She feels aspects such as monitoring and past record accessibility can be addressed with the help of Weantinogue.

A motion was made and approved that we initiate the accreditation process.

**Office space:** Stuart contacted Frontier Communications, which just bought the AT&T landline business, as to whether their empty building next to the switching station on Main Street might become the BLT office.

**Signage for the arboretum:** Mary will take care of getting dedication signs for the trees in the arboretum, and also a new property sign for Long Horizons.

Motion to adjourn at 8:00 . . . all in favor.

**Respectfully Submitted:** Carol Spier