

- c. *Leverages additional funds (e.g., from grant and land trusts), bringing better value for the dollars spent towards conservation efforts*

yes, VLT VCHB, CC, and other

- d. *Facilitates the vision for Huntington as articulated in the Town Plan*

yes, supported by Town Plan

- e. *Is the largest, best, most at-risk (e.g., threatened by less appropriate uses), or only example of an agricultural, historic, or natural resource in Huntington*

No

2. *Criteria for Historical Resources*

Not applicable

3. *Criteria for Agricultural Resources*

- a. *Preserves working farms that are ecologically and economically sustainable*

half yes, questions of economic sustainability, 1/3 of winter feed produced on parcel and is niche market that gets paid a premium for product.;

- b. *Located in proximity to other protected areas*

yes located next to State Forest.;

- c. *Situated on prime agricultural soils*

no prime ag;

- d. *Potential for diversified agricultural uses*

yes;

- e. *Farm buildings and equipment are suitable for their purpose and in usable condition*

yes;

- f. *Uses local farm support services, including local businesses and human resources*

yes

4. *Natural Resource Criteria*

- a. *Preserves or restores biodiversity, especially for rare species, and wildlife habitat*

No

- b. *Maintains open and green spaces (e.g., meadows, pastures, and wooded areas)* yes

- c. *Provides recreational opportunities* No

- d. *Preserves outstanding scenic views or is scenic itself (e.g., preserves aesthetic functions)*

of wetlands) yes

e. Preserves wetlands and water resources, including vegetation along waterways No

f. Preserves forest resources by means of a sustainable management plan yes

This parcel received 50% or more affirmatives on the three applicable categories.

Discussion included a concern that the next farming operation may have trouble maintaining high end niche product if just the 162 acres used but could be used to produce other agricultural products, that parcel was a good candidate but not optimal.

The request on application was for \$35K.

Motion by Roman, second JB: The commission would recommend to the Select Board to grant the applicant \$10K from the Conservation Fund.

Margaret proposed amendment, seconded by Jim: The commission would recommend to the Select Board to grant the applicant \$20K from the Conservation Fund.

Amendment approved with Roman lone dissent. Amended motion passed with Roman lone dissent

Margaret to write executive summary and get application on Select Board agenda

Chittenden Uplands/natural resources update by Jim. Five communities are attempting to map natural inventories across town lines and implement congruent planning standards around identified natural corridors and resources. Grant applications have made to ECOs and MPG with deadline is 21 September and 28 September respective. Jim will be primary coordinator for CC with JB as backup. CC hopes that PC will also have coordinator for planning aspects. Further discussion tabled till next mtg.

Invasive meeting update by Cindy: met with Brian Colleran, knotweed expert contracted by state to identify newly established infestation resulting from recent flooding (Irene). He will do a survey of the Huntington River and provide educational experience

CSWD: Unfortunately neither Cindy nor Jim were able to attend last mtg

Next meeting will be lower town office 6 September 2012 at 7:30 pm.

JB motioned meeting adjourned, Roman second.

Meeting adjourned 9:15 pm.