

**Aquidneck Land Trust's
25th Annual Meeting Speaking Program Outline
6:45pm-7:50pm, February 5, 2015
Atlantic Beach Club**

- I. Welcome - 5 minutes – Annie Sherman Luke (start at 6:45pm sharp after buffet)

Slide #1 Aquidneck Land Trust's 25th Annual Meeting, February 5, 2015, Atlantic Beach Club, Middletown (with logos of all sponsors, Atlantic Beach Club at the top, included on the slide as well)

Hello everyone!

Thank you so much for coming to Aquidneck Land Trust's 25th annual meeting, celebrating our 25th anniversary! I'm board chair Annie Sherman Luke, and I'm really looking forward to sharing ALT's great news tonight.

First, I'd like to thank Atlantic Beach Club, which has hosted us with a great dinner and a strong partnership for 12 years!

More hearty thank yous to our annual meetings sponsors: Aquidneck Farms, Blackstone Caterers, F.L. Putnam Investment Company, Narragansett Engineering, newportFILM, Newport Restaurant Group, Northeast Engineers & Consultants, Inc., Phoenix Bulk Carriers, William Raveis Chapman Enstone, and Campo & Company Events.

Tonight you'll hear all the great details of ALT's land conservation efforts during the last year. It has been a wild ride with Executive Director Chuck Allott at the helm. So far our intrepid leader and his team have helped ALT conserve 92.35 acres on Aquidneck Island, adding to the more than 2450 already conserved.

I'm particularly excited about the conservation easement on the St. Mary's Church property in Portsmouth, which you'll hear more about from Chuck in a moment. A special thank you to church leaders for their foresight to protect this valuable piece of green land.

As ALT's 25th anniversary gets started, I'd like to invite you all to a year full of great events, including its signature Fiesta Verde July 25 at Sweet Berry Farm, its golf tournament to be held this summer at Newport National Golf Club and Race for Open Space on the Sakonnet Greenway Trail in November. Attending one of these fun events helps you stay connected with ALT's time sensitive mission, so we hope you can continue to celebrate 25 years of land conservation with us.

Sadly I'm stepping down as ALT's board chair tonight, but welcoming Salve professor Jim Chace as chair and MET School teacher Taylor Rock as vice chair. I'm really excited

that we have two educators to continue ALT's forward momentum. But for me, it's been such an opportunity and an honor to serve on ALT's board of trustees and to really make a lasting impact on the island on which I grew up. The green open spaces I enjoyed as a kid are still here thanks to ALT, and I'm thrilled to have been even a small part of that. So before I start getting emotional, we have some business to tend to. To get started, I'd like to introduce ALT treasurer Richard Bauschpies to present the finance report.

II. Finance Report – 7 minutes - Richard E. Bauchspies, Jr., CFA, Treasurer

Slide #2 Richard Bauchspies, Jr., CFA - Treasurer

Thank you Annie!

Good evening everyone and welcome to the 25th Annual Meeting of the Aquidneck Land Trust! My name is Richard Bauchspies and it is indeed my pleasure to bring you up-to-date regarding the Land Trust's finances.

It has been my privilege to represent the organization as Treasurer again this year, and I am very grateful for the opportunity. Keep it going, all of you, by volunteering all you can of your time and of your money!

I promise to keep tonight's comments short, and I am pleased to report that the Land Trust's finances are in great shape.

As my term ends as Treasurer tonight, I want to thank all the incredible people I have had the pleasure to work with over the years. The hard work by my colleagues on the Board, and especially on the finance committee is truly amazing. Whether resolving the ARPS problems through the Great Recession, working out the Marcella McCormick Trust technical issues, or searching for St. Mary's funding solutions, the finance committee always worked tirelessly and solved problems. And, most importantly, we've now preserved over 2,500 acres on this beautiful island! Keep it going!

Slide #3 Operating Revenues

As you can see from the slide ALT's operating revenue is fairly well diversified. As in past years, Major Gifts and Grants represent a good portion of our revenue stream at 42%. Special Events, the Newport National settlement proceeds, and our Annual Appeal combine to make up about 46% of the total. The balance of revenue comes from Membership and Misc. sources.

Slide #4 Three Year Funding Plan on Land Acquisition Projects

ALT continually assesses its rolling three-year capital funding plan. Strategically, properties in the pipeline are selected for possible conservation, and the corresponding

cash needs are considered and calculated. It's formally our three-year capital funding plan and it calls for us to raise over \$2.5million! So, give as much as you can and keep it going!

Slide #5 Three Year Funding Plan on Land Acquisition

Summary Comments:

ALT's overall financial condition is strong. It has an adequate endowment investment portfolio capable of funding the organization and being good stewards of the conserved land in perpetuity. It operates in accordance with the nationally recognized standards and practices required for land trust accreditation, which it earned back in 2010. Thank you all. Thank you for coming out tonight to be part of Aquidneck Land Trust's 25th Annual meeting.

If you have any questions regarding the Land Trust's finances, please do not hesitate to see me or any member of the finance committee at your convenience.

Now, it's my pleasure to introduce Annie Sherman Luke back to the stage to as a member of our Board Governance Committee.

III. Board Governance Report – 7 minutes – Annie Sherman Luke

Slide #6 Annie Sherman Luke

Richard introduces Annie

1. Outgoing Trustees

Slide #7 List of Outgoing Trustees

On behalf of the entire organization, ALT would like to thank our four outgoing Trustees: Richard Bauchspies, Bettie Pardee, Kim Herrlinger, and myself. These individuals each provided the maximum of 3 two-year terms, a total of 6 years each, to our Board of Trustees. Please join me in thanking these special people for their enormous contributions to the Land Trust and our community.

2. Renewing Trustees

Slide #8 List of Trustees Renewing for Another Two-Year Term

I would like to thank the following Trustees for their willingness to renew for another two-year term:

George Thurston
Chan Lyell
Katherine Gagliano
Taylor Rock
Drew Coleman

May I have a motion that these people be accepted for another two-year term?

Motion made.

May I ask for a second?

Seconded.

All in favor?

Vote.

The motion passes. Thank you.

3. New Trustees

Slide #9 List of New Trustees

The members of the Land Trust's Board Governance Committee have done an outstanding job identifying and recruiting three new terrific individuals to join the Land Trust's Board of Trustees:

Karen Menezes,
Maryclare O'Grady and
Meg Steiner.

May I have a motion that the other new nominees be accepted as presented?

Motion made.

May I ask for a second?

Seconded.

All in favor of the nominations?

Vote.

The motion passes. Thank you.

4. Slate of Officers

Slide #10 Slate of Proposed Officers

I am pleased to present the following slate of proposed officers for the Land Trust's Board of Trustees for 2015:

Jameson Chace, Chair;
Taylor Rock, Vice Chair,
Andrew Coleman, CFA, Treasurer; and
Nancy Jamison, Secretary.

I ask the members of the Land Trust's Board of Trustees to vote.
May I have a motion from a member of the Board of Trustees that
the slate be accepted as presented?

Motion made.

May I ask for a second?

Seconded.

All in favor of the nominations?

Vote.

The motion passes. Thank you.

5. Closure

Slide #11 2014 Board of Trustees and Officers (slide listing all)

A Welcome to the 2015 Land Trust Board of Trustees

May I have a motion to adjourn the business session of the annual meeting?

Motion made.

May I ask for a second?

Seconded.

All in favor?

Vote.

The motion passes. Thank you.

Now please welcome Chuck Allott, Executive Director of the Aquidneck Land Trust.

IV. Executive Director's Report – 7 minutes – Charles Allott

Slide #12 Conserved Lands Map Slide

Elected Officials – members of each town council
Town Administrators and Open Space Committee Members
Representative from Federal Gov't Natural Resources Conservation Services
Representatives of RIDEM
Major Donors and Foundation Leaders
ALT Board Chairs past and present
ALT Trustees and Advisors past and present
ALT Members and
Residents of AI

Welcome to tonight's 25th annual meeting of the Aquidneck Land Trust

Partners in Preservation is what we put on our signs all over this island. We are specifically speaking of project funding partners like one of the cities or towns. But really we are all Partners in Preservation. The success of ALT would not have taken place without the support of all of you. So I wish you all a happy 25th anniversary of ALT. Not a birthday but an anniversary of our partnership. 73 parcels and over 2500 acres in 25 years – We have done good together!

What does that mean 2500 acres? It means permanent protection of:

- 29% of the remaining farmland on AI
- 21% of land in the drinking water watersheds
- 18% of all of the remaining open space on AI
- 33 protected lands where public access is welcomed - that is almost half of the parcels protected by ALT.
- 13 permanently protected parks
- 10 miles of trails on SGT and over 5 miles of other trails on other protected parcels
- 6 cultural landscapes in Newport

With your help this fledgling grass-roots organization has done all of that and yet there is so much more to do:

Almost half of the vacant land in the drinking water watersheds is still unprotected; Even if half of that were to be developed with impervious surface (roofs and pavement) – the nemesis of stormwater management - we would see a significant degradation in our water quality.

62 percent of the remaining farmland remains unprotected. The New England Food Vision Plan seeks 50% local food production by 2060 – so-call 50 by 60 Plan. Currently RI is at between 1 and 2% of local food production needs. We have a long way to go.

This year we will move forward with the implementation of our Conserve Aquidneck Now program to accelerate land conservation on AI. The first part of that process entails proper strategic planning in the watershed and farm belts to define the absolute highest priority corridors that will have the greatest impact on the quality of our lives. This will identify the lands we cannot live without. Through grants from the federal government and foundations this portion planning process has been fully funded. At that point we develop a seven-ten year funding campaign.

At that point ALT will shift to reuse and retrograde projects where developed parcels can go from grey back to green. Retrograded with green infrastructure – that means plants in between and around pavement or green roofs or rain gardens. We then will be about the stewarding of the land.

Despite some challenges, it was a year of reward and accomplishment for ALT.

The Challenges:

Slide #13 ALT Staff

While ALT lost two wonderful staff members we gained three others who have really stepped up.

Thank you to a very dedicated and hard-working staff. Please stand and be recognized.

I cannot do this land protection work without this staff and other office resources necessary to carry out this work. Every day we are passionate land owner advisors, marketers, real estate closers, fundraisers, financial and tax experts, and land managers all in a staff of 5 full time and two part-time employees. We need your continued financial support. This year we have a 13K challenge grant for general operating funds – that’s membership and annual appeal gifts. If you haven’t given please do so – it will be matched dollar for dollar by a major donor. If you have given please give 5 or 10% more this year than last and that additional amount will be matched dollar for dollar. Help us help you! A jar is set up in the other room. Might sound cheesy but last year someone wrote a \$500.00 check - so cheesy it is!

Slide #14 Tibbets/Boulevard Slide

It was a year when the true meaning of open space became a matter of open public debate. Where recreational open space was called out as not being open space at all. Where rural farm land was threatened to make way for suburban recreational sports needs. Where the fully disclosed compromises of protecting open space from residential development became real. But at least we all agree on one thing – Open Space – whatever it represents to each of us - is very important to our quality of life.

Slide #15 CA Frustrated

It was a year of extreme frustration on my part dealing with the federal bureaucratic red tape in seeking federal funding for one of our projects. That is the face of gridlock and bureaucracy right there. In the end it did close very recently with the assurance we will be getting the federal funding as a reimbursement. However, this took hundreds of hours of work on my part and that of my staff. In the end I should note that the local staff of this agency - NRCS – here tonight and who saw this face occasionally really stepped up in

the end to get it approved. Phoe and Bruni thank you so much for your efforts.

Despite the challenges we had some great accomplishments as well:

Slide #16 – NewportFilm shot

- ALT sponsored the NewportFilm Green Screen Series and 6 feature environmental documentaries through-out the year to standing room only crowds, In turn, NewportFilm is one of our sponsors tonight. This type of non-profit partnership is what makes this job so rewarding – collective action through collaboration is so strong on Aquidneck Island. In large part this is because of the amazing local foundations that foster collaborative efforts. ALT is working with no less than 20 other non-profits helping the community in different ways – everything from the development of health equity zones in our underserved communities to burying underground utilities along scenic corridors – collective action baby – that’s the key!

Slide #17 – Herb Walk shot

- ALT ran many programs on the land this year - everything from landscape photography classes with a notable local photographer to herb walks in an urban park. The slide shows the latter in Miantonomi Park. It was fascinating to see all of the edible and medicinal plants in that park – not just “won’t kill you” but actually good salad stock.
- We ran our very successful and always sold-out free trolley tours of our preserved lands which end in to a blissful sunset and wine & cheese at sweet berry farm – one of our best known Partners in Preservation – With Sweet Berry as your last act I swear you could hold a tour of abandoned warehouses of Fall River and it would sell out!
- Every year we do a bird banding demonstration to showcase the research of Professor Jim Chace and his students at Salve Regina University on migratory birds on AI. If you have never done this in October you really should it’s very cool. Fear not the birds are handled with extreme care and attendees get to let them go once banded with these little bands. For those

of you who don't know as I must confess I didn't AI is a mecca for migratory birds with very rare species stopping over here every year. The Norman Bird Sanctuary does an wonderful beginners bird watching class which I highly recommend.

Slide #18 – Water, Water, Everywhere

- In October we had a standing room only symposium at Salve Regina University on water related issues on Aquidneck Island, moderated by Joe O'Connor of WRNI. The Panel was A watershed expert professor from URI, the head of Save the Bay, the director of Clean Ocean Access, Dave McLaughlin who is here, a DEM water quality regulator, the Director of Newport Water Department – a diverse representation. Based upon the level of the questions this was a very engaged group.
- From that is coming an NPR segment with Anbar Espinosa on water quality issues on Aquidneck Island, to be broadcasted in February, 2015.

Slide 18a Environmental Leadership Award –

- This last year we inaugurated the Environmental Leadership Award for the most environmentally committed high school senior on Aquidneck Island and in June we awarded Riley Greene from the East Bay Met with the \$1,000 award. Riley had a gardening and community farming resume matching many people far his elders making a living in farming. We will be offering that again this year to seniors.

Slide #19 – Watershed Map

- In 2014, we started doing the inventorying of land areas for our Conserve Aquidneck Now initiatives. This slide graphically demonstrates both the amazing work this organization has done over 25 years but also that there is so much more to do. Again roughly half of the open space in the watershed is currently unprotected. Even our great success of an average of 100 protected acres a year that won't cut it. Much of it will be developed in the next development boom on this island. The lull we have been in won't last – that is the one constant we know – the real estate

market runs in cycles. The time is now to protect it and that is why we hope to accelerate our acquisition program.

Slide #20 Farm Map

- The same with our farmland. We need to be able to produce more of our food locally and learn how to distribute it equitably to all residents of AI. If the recent droughts in California teach us oanything its that we can no long depend 100% or 98% on our food coming from across the country or even across international borders from drought stricken areas. We will need to protect farmland in a viable manner – by that I mean with farming being a viable business model – in order to produce more food locally. The farm to table movement is great first step and has totally been embraced on this island but it is the tip of the iceberg in the overall food system. Slide again shows what we have accomplished and what we still need to do.

We had a wonderful time at **Fiesta Verde** this last year a hoe down at Sweet Berry Farm We will again be doing it there this year on July 25, 2015. Please save that date and join us.

Now the fun part where we get to honor our land conservation accomplishments over the last year.

Slide #21 – “The Kenny/Norman Bird Sanctuary Property at Green End Ave” - Aerial

In October, 2014 ALT closed on the 5.4 acre Kenny/Norman Bird Sanctuary Property at Green End Ave near the corner with Third Beach Road. While relatively small, this parcel is a fully wooded parcel with the Paradise Brook running through the middle of it. It is therefore a vital parcel for watershed protection as well as wildlife habitat protection. The Kenny Family had donated the land to the Norman Bird Sanctuary some years back and then last year NBS granted ALT a conservation easement on it. The purchase price will go to supporting the Sanctuary’s efforts to steward their 325 acres in perpetuity. So this was an inspiring case of one visionary land owner and two kindred environmental organizations all helping one another.

We would like to recognize both the Kenny Family and the Norman Bird Sanctuary for their conservation vision. Natasha and Joe are here but the Kennys were unable to attend. Natasha and Joe could you stand.

Slide #22 St. Mary's Slide

Tonight I am proud to announce that we have closed on the 72 acre St. Mary's Parcels. I have been with the land trust from the start and from the very first parcel inventory we did of the island properties this was always one of our top 10 list! From a conservation perspective this land has everything: Prime agriculture soils, forested watershed protection area, scenic views, habitat protection, public access. Last Friday we closed and recorded the project after almost four years of fundraising and fighting through I can't tell you how ecstatic I am to finally have this parcel under our conservation belt. There are many partners on this project. The closing was quite :

Our funders:

The Prince Charitable Trusts
The Alleta Morris McBean Charitable Trust
The van Beuren Charitable Foundation
The 1772 Charitable Foundation
The Bafflin Foundation
And many individuals some in this room tonight

Government Stakeholders

The Town of Portsmouth:

Town Council Members please stand

NRCS – Phoe _____ and Bruni Velez

Slide #23 Quote from Ted

I would most of all like to recognize the landowner St. Mary's Church and Sarah Gibbs Trust. I would like to start by recognizing the leadership that created this conservation vision. Our past leader, Ted Clement, and St. Mary's Church's past Rector Pam Mott. Pam is here tonight. Ted couldn't make it from Hawaii but sent this quote:

“Cheers to the Aquidneck Land Trust, St. Mary's Church, the Aquidneck Island community and everyone else who helped permanently protect the spectacular St. Mary's land so rich in conservation values! Your hard work

and good efforts on this project will benefit people on Aquidneck Island for generations to come.”

We have been working on this transaction for too long – more than 5 years – certainly too long from the perspective and the Church community. The Rector, Vestry and Trust have to be recognized for their patience in this last year as ALT sought federal farmland protection funding. With obstacles of their own they remained patient and steadfast in their support for the efforts of ALT. In the end it meant over 600K in federal funding for this project. True Partners in Preservation.

I would ask the Vestry of the Church and Trustees of the Sarah Gibbs Trust to please stand.

I like to say what Pam and Ted started Jennifer and Chuck completed! The new Rector Jennifer Pedrick please stand. Jennifer came in the middle of project but was a great partner from day one. A calming presence in the heat of deadlines Jennifer could you come up and accept for the church and the trust a small token of our appreciation. Here is a picture of the beautiful land that we now steward together as partners. Thank you for your efforts and patience and thank you to all of our stakeholders on this very important conservation project.

Last but not least my staff, committees and legal counsel, Steve Haire, without whom I couldn't have done it. Thank you.

I would now like to introduce the new Chairperson of the ALT Board of Trustees, Jim Chace. Jim has filled three two year terms and because of his passion for land conservation has agreed to stay on to be Board Chair. We are so fortunate to have such a great conservationist at the helm of the board.

V. Chair's Remarks – 5 minutes – Jameson Chace

Slide #24 something awe-inspiring

It is an honor and a privilege to accept the position of Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Aquidneck Land Trust. As a trustee for six years, I am humbled to follow in the giant shoes of Steve DeLeo, Steve McGillvary, Bill Corcoran, Linda Ujifusa and Annie Sherman-Luke. I look forward to the challenges and accept the responsibilities that come with the position.

But first, many of you might be wondering, who is this guy So a bit about me:

I am Associate Professor of Biology at Salve Regina University, and I have taken every advantage that the Land Trust offers to expose my students to this most beautiful, magnificent place we call Aquidneck Island. This island is a fantastic living laboratory for learning and understanding the deep connections people have with a local ecology.

I am similar to many of you in the room. I grew up here. I am an East Bay kid. I have explored to what probably, collectively, amounts to the length of the east coast walking up and down the Sakonnet River with my brothers and cousins. With the Boy Scouts of Troop 1 Portsmouth, I camped on parts of the old Navy base that became Melville Ponds Campground and spent countless hours cleaning up debris, and more hours wandering lost in the thickets with a great group of boys.

Like many of you I have spent time on the bay on almost any craft that would float, and several that did not. Aquidneck Island takes on a truly wild and exotic backdrop when viewed from a sailboat, kayak or canoe.

I have walked the perimeter of the island; I have run 100's of miles on the trails, back roads, cliff walk. I know this island, and we know this: we know that in almost any place on the island, the sweeping ocean vistas of across open fields and farms renew and regenerate our spirit.

I got my first taste of what it means to be a good land steward from my father and Uncle Ben walking on the land they restored with my grandfather, land that has now become the Simmons Mill Pond Management Area in Little Compton. This they taught by example: the gift of good land is a responsibility we have to the next generation. Stewardship is passed down from generation to generation like the civil war pocket watches and revolutionary war buttons on the mantle, it is part of the family fabric.

I learned to become a bird watcher at the Norman Bird Sanctuary – Tim Traver dragged me and my step-mother off to all the best birding corners of Newport and Middletown when I was in Middle School. And we all rejoice when some far flung northern traveler, such as a snowy owl, decides to stay with us for while in the winter – something they would not do if we had not protected open spaces.

All these experiences in my young, impressionable life fostered within me a deep connection to the environment. I went on to pursue biology as an undergraduate and graduate student always with an eye towards how land use affects ecological pattern and process through the study of ornithology. And now my position at Salve and my work here at the Land Trust has allowed me not just to explore and enjoy the land of Aquidneck Island, but also to take an active role in helping others understand the islands resources and an active role in the protection of these resources....

...For instance, my students and I have joined Dave McLaughlin and COA cleaning up beaches and many predawn Thursday mornings (this one included!) wading into the coastal area to be part of one the best examples of what citizen science can accomplish.

From childhood adventures to professional studies...it all has given me a great sense of place, a sense of stewardship for the land, and an ethos for leaving a place better than we found it. An ethos that I know is shared by those gathered in this room.

Like many of you I grew up and left Rhode Island. I left for wild places like Montana, Colorado, Arizona, Texas, Maine and Vermont, and then came back to raise my own family in this very special and beautiful place. And now I know who, exactly that next generation is and I feel more than ever that the gift of good land is a responsibility we have to those future generations.

It is with this sense of responsibility that I accept the position of Board Chair. We have a wonderful, dedicated board of Trustees, a tireless group of employees, and far-reaching and wide group of supporters to push the conservation of Aquidneck Island forward. I feel humbled and proud to be part of such a group.

As you have heard tonight, the Land Trust's accomplishments are many and impressive. But there is more to be done, and time is not on our side. There are too many people with short-term interests who do not know and love this place as we do.

What will future generations say about us if we leave a freshwater supply system unprotected, without adequate buffers and easements?

What will future generations say about us if there are houses and shopping centers where the parks and playgrounds used to be?

What will future generations say about us if we stand by and let the most fertile farm fields give rise to row crops of new homes?

We stand at a critical threshold; we can move the island toward 25-30% open space where neighborhoods, ball fields and industry fit within a protected network of greenspaces, where we live with the natural world and not apart from it. Or we can have an island of homes connected by bridges to other places with homes, and a few exceptional greenspaces where the forest and field used to be.

We need you now; now more than ever before.

We are an island - one island, 60,000 people with the opportunity to show what people can do to preserve and protect their home. Let others look to us, Aquidneck Island, and say "Look what they did; let's follow their example." IF we cannot conserve the very best of this spectacular place, with this group of dedicated people, I am afraid this may not be able to be done anywhere. If we can do it, it bodes well for our earth island.

We CAN do it. So let's get back to work; let's Conserve Aquidneck Now.

Slide #25 Conserve Aquidneck NOW slide.

Slide #25 Aquidneck Land Trust's 25th Annual Meeting, February 5, 2015, Atlantic Beach Club, Middletown (with logos of all sponsors, Atlantic Beach Club at the top, included on the slide as well)

At last year's meeting we tasked our guests with letting us know what's important to them, and what we need to do more of.

- You asked us to continue acquiring land, and not to stray from our land conservation plan – since last year's meeting we've conserved 92 acres, which is more than we conserved in 2012 & 2013 combined. We also developed a focused strategy to increase our conservation on the Island which we refer to as the CAN project.
- You requested we keep at work water quality and storm water management – last October we hosted a panel discussion with the state's premiere water specialist to keep the dialogue going about how we can manage and protect our watersheds. In addition I sit on a Middletown stormwater steering committee looking at funding alternatives for stormwater infrastructure.
- You want us to help working farms to keep working – and we recently just conserved 72 acres of prime USDA farmland that is farmed by Aquidneck Farms, which also aids in local food access. We held a succession planning workshop for farmers last February and will again in March. We are working with a collaboration of non-profits called Island Commons to create a comprehensive inventory and plan of our local food system.
- You requested we partner with more like-minded entities, we did this not only through our partnership with newportFILM, and when we conserved land with our friends at the Norman Bird Sanctuary just recently, not to mention our other collective action partnerships
- You request we develop programs for tourists, who are visiting our beautiful Island. Last fall we did a test run of a "field trip" called The Heart of Aquidneck Island for the national land trust conference that was in Providence in September. We hope to launch it as a self-guided tour this year. What we want you to take away from this is, we are listening to you, and we want to work together to celebrate this Island for years to come!

This year to build on that desire for feedback we have a new technology which I call "survey clickers" We will ask you some questions about open space on Aquidneck Island and we can register your responses instantaneously. Clickers are being loaned by Salve Regina University and URI so please be sure to place in the baskets on the table.

So let's get started:

Clicker Questions Slides -

Which of our protected property criteria is most important to you?

- (A) Within Drinking Supply Watershed
- (B) Agriculture
- (C) Public Recreation
- (D) Scenic Vistas
- (E) Wildlife Habitat
- (f) All of the above

(we protect all of these in varying degrees at any given time)

Where have you seen ALT make the most impact on the Island?

- (A) Nature trails, particularly Sakonnet Greenway Trail
- (B) Conserved watersheds
- (C) Conserved major and small farmlands
- (D) Communications with high schools and increased student involvement

(different than the first. Maybe our most impact is not on what you think is most important)

In which municipality has ALT made the most impact?

- (A) Portsmouth
- (B) Middletown
- (c) Newport

(Middletown and Portsmouth have much more protected acreage on other hand one acre in an urban area can have as much community impact and many acres in a more rural area. sert comments which show actual statistics)

Which of the following areas do you think ALT needs to focus more on?

- (A) Outreach and Education Programs
- (B) Fundraising
- (C) Land Acquisition
- (D) Stewardship

(insert comments on how these are ALT's focus, and one, without the others is impossible – a great sustainable organization is working on all of them at any given time)

What is the best way for ALT to reach out to you about our accomplishments and programs?

- (A) Email News Blasts (“Good Dirt”)
- (B) Newspaper Articles
- (C) Facebook
- (D) Website
- (E) Other

(insert comments on how it’s important to us to know how to best communicate with our supporters)

What activities do you participate in on ALT’s Sakonnet Greenway Trail?

- (A) Hiking
- (B) Horseback
- (C) walking or dog walking
- (D) Jogging
- (E) Snow Shoeing
- (F) I don’t use the Sakonnet Greenway Trail

(insert comments on the recreation opportunities ALT provides for FREE)

What proactive steps are you taking in your life and on your property to help address water quality and stormwater/flooding issues?

- (A) Consciously conserve water
- (B) Rain Barrel to collect stormwater runoff
- (C) Rain Garden to collect stormwater run off
- (D) Green roof
- (E) Pervious driveway
- (F) More than one of the above
- (G) None of the above

Is locally produced food important in your life?

- (A) Yes;
- (B) No

Where do you grocery shop predominantly?

- (A) National or Regional Supermarkets
- (B) National or Regional Specialty Grocery Stores
- (C) Small local grocery stores

(D) Farmers Markets

Do farms improve your quality of life?

(A) Yes

(B) No

What percentage of Aquidneck Island is conserved?

(A) 8%

(B) 20%

(C) 35%

(D) 70%

(I'm sure you have heard it before that Island of Manhattan, roughly the same size, has more protected OS than AI)

Is there enough open space on Aquidneck Island?

(A) Yes

(B) No

(when I see survey that says that 75% of respondents in Portsmouth think there is enough open space on AI, I think of the fact that over 80% is not protected)

Do you know where your drinking water comes from?

(A) Yes

(B) No

(insert comments on how we don't know, therefore we must protect all the watershed areas)

From your responses I think you have shown us that you appreciate open space on the Island, that cleaning drinking water at the source is a high priority, that you appreciate local, sustainable agriculture, and you appreciate miles of free hiking trails. And therefore you have shown yourself that you should be supporting the Aquidneck Land Trust, because these are all of the things we are working on.

So here where that challenge grant comes up again – get us to our goal! Be the difference!

Clickers in the baskets. Thank you.

