Hi, just a reminder that you’re receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP). Don’t forget to add dtaylor@lchip.org to your address book so we’ll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

Season's Greetings!

Whatever winter holiday you celebrate, please also join all of us at LCHIP in celebrating 36 wonderful projects receiving funding in the latest grant round. You'll find a list of them here and a little more information about a few of them in this newsletter. Watch for more details of these exciting new projects in upcoming issues of the newsletter.

LCHIP greatly appreciates support of the Governor and legislature making funding for these fine projects a reality. The LCHIP Board of Directors works very hard to select the grant award recipients from each year's applicants. I am grateful to the LCHIP staff for their commitment, competence and good humor throughout the grant round.

Please join us in celebrating projects in this grant round. Happy holidays!

Dijit Taylor
Executive Director

DECISIONS, DECISIONS...
"I'll trade you two historic meetinghouses in need of roof repairs for 150 acres of farmland!"

"No way! Would you take 470 acres of forest for the home of a former Governor? "

"Deal!"

OK, the process of determining which projects will receive

CHRISTMAS AT CANTERBURY - THE PERFECT ANTIDOTE TO THE CHRISTMAS CRAZIES!

DEC. 13, 3PM - 8PM

LCHIP's prescription for the Christmas Crazies? An LCHIP road trip. Saturday, December 13, breathe in the simplicity that is Christmas at Canterbury Shaker Village. Take a candlelight stroll through the Village, watch an old-time 19th Century magic show, ride in a horse drawn wagon, decorate holiday cookies, enjoy hands-on craft activities and demonstrations and musical performances.

Canterbury Shaker Village is a place where the ideals of simplicity, reflection and renewal are present year round, "notes Funi Burdick, Executive Director." Christmas at Canterbury is a
LCHIP funding is nothing like that.

The truth is, distributing grant funds is tough. There is no formula, nor is there one single definition of the perfect LCHIP project. Instead, each application is carefully considered both on its own merits and compared to the entire pool of applications. Ideally (and by state law), LCHIP funds are distributed to a variety of different types of projects in communities throughout the state and among the three major program areas - historic, cultural, and natural resources.

There is overlap between categories and many subgroups within each category. Historic resource projects might include a wide variety of types of old buildings and an equally wide range of restoration needs. Natural resource properties may use conservation easements or fee acquisitions to conserve many different resource types. All are valuable and all are valued.

"We have six 18th century white, wood-framed town halls in one county that want to save money and increase energy efficiency by fixing up their original windows. Can we fund them all?"

"If we do that, will there be enough money to provide permanent conservation for that 600-acre forest on the other side of the state?"

Tough choices. LCHIP has responsibility to provide a wide range of benefits to the state. Trying to meet them all can be a mighty big challenge, but that is what the 18-member Board of Directors tries to do when they gather to make the final funding decisions. Beyond resource and geographic diversity, a host of other factors also come into play: Does a building present immediate safety concerns for users and visitors? Is there a risk that the land will be developed in the near future? Does the project have broad public support? What other funding sources are available?

In every grant round so far, the need for assistance has been far greater than the funding available. Just like in the college application process, good applicants are turned away. So, when LCHIP Executive Director Dijit Taylor picks up the phone to share funding decisions with the applicants, not everyone hears good news. To buffer the disappointment of those not selected for funding, LCHIP staff offers to meet with them to discuss how to improve their applications.

Decision-making day is a big deal, full of tough choices. It is the culmination of a process that we take very seriously - from trying to make the application form as simple and clear as
possible, to reviewing applications, to visiting project sites, through the final allocation of funds. Tough choices, but fabulous results.

LCHIP Spotlight: Some New Grant Recipients

The recipients of the 2014 LCHIP matching grants range from $400,000 to permanently protect 1,114 acres in Epping to a $7,430 grant for a study of Jones Hall in Marlow. The parcels of land to be permanently protected range from those 1,114 acres in Epping to 7 acres in Tamworth. Buildings date from as early as the 1764 Park Hill Meetinghouse in Westmoreland to as late as the 1918 Peterborough Town House.

The Town of Hancock for window restoration of the 1820 Hancock meetinghouse, one of a few meetinghouses in NH still jointly owned and used by town and church.

The Nature Conservancy for permanent conservation of 39 additional acres at the Hills-Emery Farm in Durham, abutting the well known Wagon Hill Farm. The current farm owner represents the 10th generation of the same family farming the land!

The Thompson Ames Historical Society, 1835 Rowe House in Gilford: for roof and exterior repairs to this rare brick house known to have been the dwelling of a brick maker and the only known cape in NH featuring its unique design.
The Upper Valley Land Trust for permanent conservation of 70 acres at King's Grant Farm in Cornish, which includes 890' of frontage on the Connecticut River and working farmland producing local food for local people.

Peg Merrens, Vice President Conservation, Upper Valley Land Trust; LCHIP Board Chair Doug Cole; LCHIP Executive Director Dijit Taylor; King's Grant Farm owner Raymond Sprague