

Country Squires- Minutes of Meeting held September 11, 2025

President Steve Seamans began the meeting at Noon with commemoration of the 24th anniversary of 9/11.

Art Rosen, before Words of Inspiration, asked for a moment of silence to remember Ed Wollensak, a longtime Squire who passed last week.

With all Squires standing, Art presented, in his Words of Inspiration, a stirring tribute to those fallen in, and affected by, the 9/11 attacks.

The meeting continued, after a luncheon of excellently prepared chicken piccata, with the approval of the August meeting minutes as amended.

Members approved the applications for membership of brothers David & Jeff Hollinger and of Bob Friedlander. Art Scutro introduced Guest Bruce Storm.

Forest Stewardship and Sustainability was the meeting's presentation topic. Hans Carlson, Executive Director of the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust, began the presentation by describing ASLPT's role in land protection of 14,000 acres in conservancy in our area through ownership and easements. He provided an overview of North American forestry from 1600's forward and noted that the Nature Conservancy has designated the Appalachian Mountains as one of the world's four globally important resources.

Ann Davis, who with her husband Marc have placed a major portion of their 527 acre property "Woods without Gile" under ASLPT conservation. Ann provided a detailed discussion of their acquisition, development and ongoing forestry management since 2002 with many "before and after" pictures of property. She emphasized the importance of the numerous wetlands sites to the natural habitat. The property is open to the public for walking, hunting, fishing and skiing without motorized vehicles. "Woods without Gile" is in Wilmot and Springfield adjacent to the 6,725 acre Giles State Forest. Trail maps were made available.

The meeting concluded at 2PM.

Recorded by Art Scutro for Secretary Tom Flynn