

Country Squires- Minutes of Annual Meeting on May 14, 2026

President Steve Seamans began the Annual Meeting at 12:00.

Art Rosen provided a welcoming message to the spousal guests and, as Words of Inspiration, his original Memorial Day poem – “A Salute to the Fallen”.

After luncheon, the minutes of the April 9th meeting were approved unanimously.

President Seamans presented the slate of officers for the 2026-27 year as follows:

President- Don Elliott; Vice President-Craig Stockel; Treasurers- Richard Beffa, Tom Bates; Secretary- Art Scutro (acting); Program Co- chairs- Ron Crowell, Tom Hull , Dave Wood(thru 12/31) Membership Co-chairs- Mark Friedman, Peter Keenan Webmaster- vacant/currently being outsourced. Members are invited to fill a new second Vice President, the Secretary and the Webmaster positions. The slate was approved unanimously.

Our guest speaker, Dr. Dean McCurdy, president of Colby-Sawyer, provided a College Update as he is completing his first year as the college's 10th President. The Update focused on C-S's connections to the community and the college's profile with an excellent slide presentation.

Current student population is just under 1,000 with 92% in residency; the Nursing curriculum is by far the most popular major, followed by Business, Exercise Sciences, Psychology and Biology. It was noted that C-S is one of four New England colleges with increasing enrollment. C-S recently received a 10-yr. renewal of accreditation by the NECHE committee and is currently implementing a 2025-approved four goal Strategic Plan. Current Endowment is \$84M.

Community connections include the 40 yr partnership with Dartmouth Hitchcock's medical programs, the Hogan Athletic Center (aka the local Y), Windy Hill Lab School, Adventures in Learning, and athletic events (40% students are Varsity Athletes). C-S's facilities are also often used for municipal, entertainment and other events. As an aside, C-S is New London's highest tax payer at \$415K with additional water & sewer payments of \$157K.

Following Q & A which questioned the challenges facing educational programs, e.g. space, AI, online programs, Program co-chair Dave Wood thanked for an outstanding presentation, during which Dean McCurdy was enthusiastic, candid, comprehensive and entertaining.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15PM.

By Art Scutro, Acting Secretary
5/27/2026