

Land Trust Standards and Practices Revisions Process Update

Saving Special Places

April 9, 2016

Purpose of Today's Session

- Overview of S&P revisions process
- Approach and use of S&P discussion draft
- Land trust community participation process
- High-level feedback on the S&P discussion draft

Introductory Discussion

- What is the single biggest challenge you are facing where the Standards need to provide clearer guidance?



Goals of 2016-17 Revisions Process

- Engage all land trusts with work of pursuing excellence and continuous improvement
- Make S&P accessible for entire land trust community
- Update to reflect changes in legal and operational environment
- Ensure alignment with accreditation, Terrafirma and other resources and tools

Overview of Process

- Roles of various stakeholders
 - Land Trust Alliance
 - Land Trust Accreditation Commission
 - Standards Advisory Team
 - Greater land trust community
- Work completed to date
 - Where we are in the process

Projected Timing	Tasks
Fall 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board approval of final plan • Announce process • Preparation of S&P discussion draft
January 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board approval of SAT
Winter 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAT starts its work • S&P discussion draft released for high-level feedback • Preparation for spring dialogues
Spring-summer 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community participation process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-person and online
Fall 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthesis of results • More public input, if necessary • Final draft prepared
February or June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board approval of revised S&P! • Implementation phase begins

S&P Discussion Draft

- 12-standard framework is essentially sound
- More readable and streamlined document
 - Focus on practices that apply broadly to land trust community
 - Improve clarity, reduce redundancy
 - Organize the practices into elements
- Design as online resource
 - Clearly highlight those items that lead to accreditation
 - Link to Alliance resources, narratives and requirements

New Framework!

- Current approach

5B. Accountability to Donors. The land trust is accountable to its donors and provides written acknowledgement of gifts as required by law, ensures that donor funds are used as specified, keeps accurate records, honors donor privacy concerns and advises donors to seek independent legal and financial advice for substantial gifts.

- Fresh approach

B. Accountability to Donors

1. Provide accurate and truthful solicitation materials and other communications to donors and the public
2. Classify all funds as unrestricted, temporarily restricted or permanently restricted as identified in written communications with, or as directed in writing by, the donor
3. Provide timely written acknowledgment of all gifts, including land and conservation easements, as required by law
4. Comply with the donor's written restrictions for all gifts
5. Have a written policy or procedure to ensure donor privacy concerns are honored

Community Input Process

- Runs through September 15
- Land trusts can provide input in three ways
 - In person at spring conferences and other sessions
 - Online for detailed comments on each practice via Ethelo platform: standards-practices-revisions.ethelodecisions.com
 - Via email at SandP@lta.org

12 standards

← BACK: Demographics

GENERAL INFO +

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WELCOME

DEMOGRAPHICS

12 STANDARDS

1: ETHICS, MISSION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1.A. ETHICS

1.B. MISSION

1.C. PLANNING AND EVALUATION

1.D. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

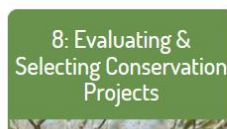
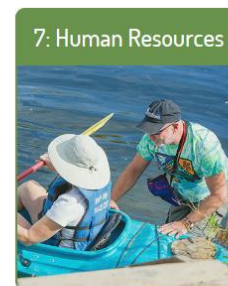
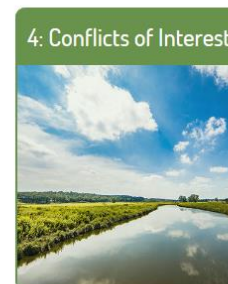
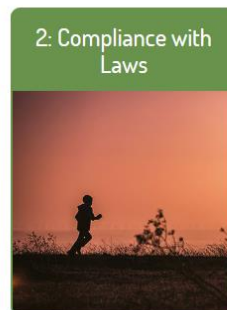
2.A. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

2.B. NONPROFIT INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS

2.C. TAX EXEMPTION

3: BOARD ACCOUNTABILITY

3.A. BOARD RESPONSIBILITY



4.A. Dealing with Conflicts of Interest

Please indicate your level of support for the following elements related to A. Dealing with Conflicts of Interest in relation to their importance to the land trust community. If you have no opinion, leave the ranking as "No Vote."

Preliminary accreditation indicator elements are shown in blue.

You can reference the 2004 version of Standard 4 and its associated practices, including tracked changes and highlighted new practice elements, [here](#).

← BACK: 4. Conflicts of Interest

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DEMOGRAPHICS

12 STANDARDS

1. ETHICS, MISSION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1A. ETHICS

1B. MISSION

1C. PLANNING AND EVALUATION

1D. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS


2A. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS


2B. NONPROFIT INCORPORATION

1. CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ No Vote


1. Adopt a written conflict of interest policy that addresses, for all insiders, how conflicts are identified and avoided or managed

 **Connie Manes** The 990 form has a question about whether a nonprofit organization has an adopted Conflicts Policy
March 19 at 1:50pm · Like · Reply

 Is there a way to strengthen or clarify this element? If you oppose it, please help us understand why.

NEXT: 4.b. Board Compensation →


COMMENTS

 Write a comment...

2. MANAGEMENT OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ No Vote

2. Document the disclosure and management of actual and potential conflicts

 Is there a way to strengthen or clarify this element? If you oppose it, please help us understand why.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Do you have comments or suggestions on **4.A. Dealing with Conflicts of Interest**:
Indicate the practice and element you are commenting on... (for example, 6.B.1 Financial Records)

Discussion and Questions



Wrap-up and Thank You!

