

North Carolina Coastal Land Trust Annual Meeting Minutes

4:00 – 7:00 p.m. on October 11, 2025

Stern-Anderson Property, 8016 Spring Peeper Ln, Wilmington, NC

Approximately 153 members and guests attended the North Carolina Coastal Land Trust Annual Meeting and Celebration held at the Stern-Anderson property in Wilmington, North Carolina, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm on October 11, 2025. Guests enjoyed fellowship, a raw oyster bar, a fully catered dinner, live music by Masonboro Sound, a book signing by Dr. Stan Riggs, and a silent auction featuring two pieces by artist Elizabeth Darrow.

At 5:26 p.m., Mr. Harrison Marks, Executive Director of the North Carolina Coastal Land Trust, welcomed guests and acknowledged the beautiful venue. He spoke about the changes made to the Annual Celebration over the past two years- making it free to attend rather than suggesting a donation- and expressed gratitude to the sponsors who made this possible.

Mr. Marks recognized Mr. Stan Riggs, a Coastal Land Trust board member, who hosted a book signing for his new book, "Cape Lookout National Seashore: Paradigm for a Coastal System Ethic". He also acknowledged Ms. Elizabeth Darrow and Ms. Amy Grant, who donated artwork for the silent auction, and recognized each member of the Coastal Land Trust staff for their dedication and hard work.

At 5:31 p.m., Mr. Bob Emory, President of the Board of Directors, called the business portion of the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Nancy Thomason made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous year's annual meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ann Talton and unanimously approved.

Election of Directors: Board members in attendance included: Mr. Bob Emory of New Bern, Ms. Hannah Holt of Wilmington, Ms. Laurie King of Wilmington, and Ms. Ann Simpson of Chapel Hill. Mr. Emory presented the slate of new members for election to the Board of Directors: Ms. Mavis Gragg of Durham, Mr. Webb Fuller of Nags Head, Ms. Linda Murchison of Wilmington, and Mr. William Snyder of Topsail Beach. The motion to elect the new board members was made by Ms. Laurie King and seconded by Ms. Katelyn Freund. The slate was unanimously approved.

At 5:34 p.m., Mr. Emory adjourned the business portion of the meeting.

Following the meeting, Mr. Marks discussed several of the Coastal Land Trust's accomplishments, including Hoggards Millpond in Bertie County, the dedication of

Reaves Chapel, and the success of the South End of Topsail campaign. He also highlighted ongoing conservation work in the Croatan and Craven County areas and the success of the Flytrap Frolic event, which had over 1,000 attendees. Mr. Marks concluded by mentioning the organization's progress toward developing a new five-year strategic plan. He thanked everyone for attending and closed the program.

Annual Celebration Sponsors:

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