

April 18, 2012

TO: Board of Selectmen
Chilmark Land Bank Advisory Committee

FROM: Tea Lane Farm Committee

SUBJECT: Recommendation: Three Tea Lane Farm Finalists

This recommends three candidates for your final interviews and the eventual selection of the Tea Lane Farmer.

Background

The Tea Lane Farm Committee includes Warren Doty, Brian Cioffi, Dick Smith, Mitchell Posin and Billy Meegan.

The Committee reviewed 13 separate, detailed plans that included a farm plan, a plan to renovate and use the historic farmhouse, a plan for the other outbuildings and a financial schedule for investment in the plans with anticipated operating revenue and expenses.

The Committee selected 6 semi-finalists and interviewed each candidate for at least 45 minutes—see enclosed interview questions. It deliberated for two evenings after conducting the interviews and recommends the following three finalists in rank order of preference. Each of their plans is enclosed for your review.

1. Allen Healy.
2. Krishana Collins.
3. Rusty Gordon and Sarah Crittenden.

These selections and final rankings reflect the overall strengths of each candidate's farm plan, their renovation plans for the historic farmhouse, their financial resources and investment plan and their knowledge and experience needed to succeed.

Next Steps

1. May 1 @ 7:30 PM: The Board of Selectmen and Chilmark Land Bank Advisory Committee will jointly interview each of the three finalists.
2. May 3 @ time TBD: The Farm Committee recommends you reconvene after conducting the interviews to discuss and select the Tea Lane Farmer while ranking the remaining two candidates—should the plans for the selected recipient change in the near future.

TEA LANE FARM SEMI-FINALIST INTERVIEW QUESTIONS
APRIL 11, 12, 2012

Opening Remarks: Welcome and introduce the Committee members.

1. What attracted you to apply for the Tea Lane Farm?
2. Please describe your plan for the historic Tea lane Farmhouse.
 - a. Follow Up Question?
3. What are the two or three strongest aspects of your farm plan that you believe will contribute to its success?
 - a. Follow Up Question?
4. What is your backup plan if one or more of your farm plan's strong points do not meet your expectations?
5. Please describe two farming accomplishments from your past farming experience of which you are most proud.
 - a. Follow Up Question?
6. Briefly summarize your total financial plan and financial resources for this project.
 - a. Do you need and have a bank letter of commitment?
 - b. What's the status of your CORI check?
7. Why should we select you over any of the other candidates?
8. Do you have any questions for us?