Westchester Land Trust Kicks Off 2016
with Exciting Additions to the Board of Directors and Staff Rosters

Bedford Hills, NY—Lori Ensinger, President of the Westchester Land Trust (WLT) announced two additions to the twenty-one member Board of Directors of the esteemed land conservation organization. “We are honored that Yorktown resident, Francis Goldwyn, and Irvington resident, Catherine Knickerbocker Diao will lend their talent and experience to our Board of Directors and we welcome them to the team,” said Ms. Ensinger.

Ms. Knickerbocker Diao comes to WLT with twenty years of experience as a financial analyst, having specialized in the health care sector. She later transitioned into a career in education through the NYC Teaching Fellows Program, an alternative certification teacher training program which focuses on placing teachers in low-income neighborhoods. Ms. Knickerbocker Diao holds a BA in Economics from Brown University, and an MA in Education from Relay Graduate School of Education as well as both a CFA and CFP certification. Catherine and her husband Jim Diao, an investment banker at UBS, have two children and reside in Irvington.

Mr. Goldwyn’s professional credits include the Manhattan Toy Company, Ltd., where he served as both the company’s founder and president. In addition, he was the general partner and CFO of the hedge fund, Chilmark 21st Century Capital. Mr. Goldwyn studied Economics at the University of California at Los Angeles and is a licensed CPA. He is currently the managing member of the executive search firm, Quorum Associates, LLC. Mr. Goldwyn lives in Yorktown, with his partner Jackie Dzaluk, who currently sits on the Board of the Lewisboro Land Trust.

Katonah resident, Peter Menzies, will leave the WLT Board of Directors after nearly a decade of faithful service; and Paul Sisson, formerly of Larchmont, will shift his energies from a Board to an Advisory Board role.

WLT is also pleased to welcome new Land Steward, Ben Ganon, to the team in 2016. Mr. Ganon has held multiple positions at the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve at Norrie Point. Working with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Ben helped coordinate the Hudson River Sustainable Shorelines Project and worked to place science based information in the hands of decision makers concerning coastal management in the Hudson River Estuary. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources from the University of Vermont's Rubenstein School for Natural Resources and Environment.

In addition to Mr. Ganon’s hiring, Ms. Ensinger also announced several key changes within the existing slate of WLT staff members. Susan Carpenter, David Emerson, Kate Sann and Kara Hartigan Whelan will all assume new or expanded roles within the organization beginning in 2016.

The Westchester Land Trust works with public and private partners to preserve land in perpetuity, and to enhance the natural resources in Westchester and eastern Putnam counties. WLT’s conservation efforts impact the long term health of these communities through the protection of watershed areas, air quality, and food supply. In total, WLT has preserved almost 8,000 acres of open space including approximately 700 acres of preserves owned by the organization.