

# Working Lands Enterprise FY24 Symposium Part 2 Learning, Reflection, and Continuous Improvement

August 22nd, 2023, 8:30am to 5:00pm

Shelburne Farms  
1611 Harbor Rd, Shelburne, VT 05482

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## Desired Outcomes:

- Agree on updated Vision, Mission, and Strategies.
- Strengthen the FY24 grant review process.
- Review FY24 WLEB calendar.
- Update FY24 provisional budget.
- Clarify WLEB engagement for maximum program impact.

## Central Strategic Question:

- What programmatic improvements can be made to continue to improve WLEI's functioning and impact?
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## Agenda

8:30-9:00am: Welcome and breakfast

9:00-9:15am: Introduction to Shelburne Farms and the farms educational initiatives – Megan Camp

9:15-9:25am: Welcome and Agenda Review / Intended Outcomes – Elizabeth Sipple

9:25-9:30am: Approve June Meeting Minutes – Part 1 WLEB Symposium —Board Vote

9:30-10:30am: Deliberation on and vetting Revised Vision, Mission, and Strategies – Clare Salerno

- 9:30-9:45: Individual reflection
- 9:45-10:25: Group discussion
- 10:25-10:30: Adopt revised Vision, Mission, and Strategies —Board Vote

10:30-10:45am: Break

10:45-11:45pm: Review of Scoring Criteria – Elizabeth Sipple

- 10:45-11:00: Individual reflection
- 11:00-12:00: Group Discussion
- Prompts for individual reflection:
  - Are there scoring criteria that are outdated for the current context?
    - For example, is job creation still an impact that we want to specifically call out in the impact scoring section?

- Is innovation still something we want to offer points for? Grantees have shared that they feel tried and true investments should not be less competitive.
- Are there criteria that are missing?
  - For example, should there be points for the social impact of a project (impacting a marginalized population...) or environmental stewardship/resiliency criteria (climate adaptation/mitigation)?
- What criteria would benefit from further clarity? If you reviewed, were there criteria that felt unclear to you?
  - For example, we have received feedback from reviewers that it is not clear how they should be assessing the financial need criteria – and that need for the project and financial need are combined in this criterion but should be two separate items.

11:45-12:00pm: Complete individual DEI Questionnaire

12:00-12:45pm: Lunch

12:45-2:00pm: Continuous improvement of the grant review process – Elizabeth Sipple

- Sector review meetings
- Options for financial documents required and their review.
- Further WLEB suggestions

2:00-2:45pm: Review and update contracts section of the FY24 provisional budget – Elizabeth Sipple

2:45-3:00pm: Break

3:00-3:30pm: Review of WLEB FY24 Calendar – Clare Salerno

- Special focus on grant review periods and grant review sign-up

3:30-4:00pm: Grantee Update – Clare Salerno

4:00-4:45pm: WLEB Engagement in FY24 – Elizabeth Sipple

- With the legislature
- With the Working Lands Coalition
- With Farm to Plate Strategy Committees
- With Forestry Roadmap Steering Committee

4:45-5:00pm: Symposium evaluation (+/-) and closing reflections- Elizabeth Sipple

5:00pm: *Adjourn and Dinner*