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**PLANTING FIELDS FOUNDATION ELECTS NEW MEMBER TO THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND EXPANDS ITS STAFF**

Oyster Bay, New York – March 19 – Planting Fields Foundation (“Planting Fields” or “the Foundation”) announced today the election of Duncan C. Sahner to the Board of Trustees and two new additions to the staff. Caitlin Colban-Waldron joins the organization as the Michael D. Coe Archivist and Doris Del Valle will assume the role of Fundraising and Events Manager.

In making the announcement today, said Executive Director, Gina Wouters, “I am pleased to welcome Duncan to the Planting Fields Foundation Board of Trustees, and our new staff, as these appointments directly advance the goals outlined in the strategic plan initiated earlier this year. Duncan’s enthusiasm for the vision of Planting Fields as well as his passion for horticulture and history aligns seamlessly with our long-term plans. The addition of Caitlin and Doris in the areas of archival collections management and fundraising events, respectively, are essential to our goals of preserving our archives and making them accessible to the public and growing our revenue streams.”

“Planting Fields is not only a historic landscape of extraordinary scale and integrity, but also a vibrant resource for our community and the New York region. This is truer today than ever as the need for public green spaces has become so crucial,” said Duncan Sahner. “I’m thrilled to join the Board of Trustees at this pivotal moment. The depth of vision evident in their long-term plans for Planting Fields is exhilarating.”

About Duncan C. Sahner

Duncan Sahner is a partner at Abdiel Capital, an investment firm in Manhattan. He graduated from Princeton University with an A.B. in history and extensive coursework in art and architecture. He works with several organizations as a trustee, among them the Horticultural Society of New York, and serves as president of his college class.

About Caitlin Colban-Waldron

Caitlin Colban-Waldron holds an MLS degree with a certificate in Archives and Preservation of Cultural Materials, and a B.A. in Women’s Studies. Alongside her part-time role as archivist at the Foundation, she works part-time as Archives Assistant at the Queens College Special Collection and Archives. The Archivist position at Planting Fields Foundation is

named in memory of Yale anthropologist and *Chairman Emeritus* of Planting Fields Foundation, Michael D. Coe.

About Doris Del Valle

Doris Del Valle joins the Foundation from the American Diabetes Association in New York City where she managed all phases of the organization’s signature events, including planning, budget oversight and fundraising goals. A resident of East Norwich, Doris is currently pursuing her B.A. in Media Studies at Queens College.

About Planting Fields Foundation

Planting Fields Foundation strives to preserve and make relevant to all audiences the heritage of Planting Fields, an early 20th century 409-acre estate, designed as an integrated composition of the built and natural world. Founded in 1952 by William R. Coe, the Foundation is a not-for-profit public educational foundation chartered by the New York State Board of Regents and tax exempt under the status of a 501(c)(3) organization. Located in Oyster Bay, New York and originally landscaped by the Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts, the grounds feature 409 acres of greenhouses, rolling lawns, formal gardens, woodland paths, and outstanding plant collections. The original historic estate buildings remain intact including Coe Hall, a 65-room Tudor Revival mansion designed by Walker & Gillette. The interior of the house is a showcase of artistry and craftsmanship and features a distinctly American aesthetic through original ironwork commissions by Samuel Yellin and murals painted by artists Robert Winthrop Chanler and Everett Shinn. Planting Fields is included in the National Register of Historic Places, the official list of the Nation’s historic sites worthy of preservation.

To learn more about Planting Fields Foundation, please visit our website at www.plantingfields.org.