

HOPKINTON LAND TRUST
TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

March 12, 2019

PRESENT: Marilyn Grant, *Chair*, Sarah Windsor, *Vice Chair*, Carol Baker, *Secretary*, Cynthia Johnson and Mary Gibbons, *Trustees*.

ABSENT: Paul Wilcox, Ed Wood, *Trustees*.

- A. Call to order** at 7:08 by Grant with 5 trustees, and therefore a quorum, present.
- B. Approval of previous meeting minutes:** Minutes of February 19, 2019 Public and Executive minutes were reviewed and approved as well as placing Executive minutes under seal, passed unanimously.
- C. Accounting of funds:** Grant reported Citizens balance was \$18,242, balance increase from RI Foundation conservation stewardship endowment.

D. Reports

Chair: HLT Meeting Schedule: Upcoming meetings are 3/26, 4/9 and 4/23.
Town Council Budget hearing tomorrow night, Grant will let us know if we should attend.

Friends of the HLT: Grant reported that Anderson had penned a letter to Anthony Pelloni regarding hosting solstice, Baker will follow up.

Land Management and Stewardship:

- **Trail Camera:** Wilcox sent an email saying he purchased a camera and will install it on his property to test it out.
- **Expansion of Depot Square/Brushy Brook Trail update:** Significant alteration wetland permit in process of being put together, we need a description of impacts on wetland of project. Buford spoke with Gina Fuller, who worked on NRCS application for Baruti for us, she is a known quantity, and gave us estimate \$50/hour for 20 hours, Wood and Anderson checked other professionals who charged at \$85 and \$100 hour. Baker motioned, Johnson seconded to approve up to \$1000 for Ms. Fuller to complete impact report. Passed unanimously.
- **Crown Farm Preserve planning parking:** Wood working on RFP engineering services to design parking lot, similar to Kenyon Roads crossroads lot. Agricultural field acreage is approximately 19 acres, Johnson will contact current agricultural leasees to ascertain interest. Buford will GPS trails when weather improves.
- **Grills Wildlife sanctuary picnic tables:** Discussion regarding past vandalism, suggestion by Mr. Grant to purchase a chain to secure table to tree. Members present also discussed installing a trail camera for the season to ascertain use of site, to see if table is being used. All agreed this was the prudent way forward.

Funding and Grants: Grant reported on behalf of Anderson that Friends of the Hopinton Land Trust is applying to State Legislative grants for \$411 for map and rolling cases for document storage. Last year, they received \$500 last year for hand tools. Application due soon, Anderson will coordinate.

RI Foundation has another community grant round for up to \$10,000, Friends got funds for gazebo last year. Discussion ensued as to what projects we could fund currently, all agreed that we will apply next year when plans for Crowne Preserve are further along.

E. Old Business: None

F. New Business: Annual reorganization: Done last : Accomplished at last meeting on 3/12.

G. Public Forum: None

H. Executive Session [pursuant to RI Gen. Law Ch.46 42-46-5a (5)]. At 7:39 PM, Windsor moved that we go into executive session, pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a)(5), to discuss potential land acquisitions. Johnson seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Return from Executive Session at 7:59 PM

I. Adjourn 7:59 PM

Respectfully submitted
Carol Baker, Secretary