

HOPKINTON LAND TRUST
TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

March 26, 2019

PRESENT: Marilyn Grant, *Chair*, Sarah Windsor, *Vice Chair*, Carol Baker, *Secretary*, Cynthia Johnson, Paul Wilcox and Mary Gibbons, *Trustees*. Harvey Buford, *Conservation Commission*

ABSENT: Ed Wood, *Trustee*.

- A. **Call to order** at 7:07 by Grant with 6 trustees, and therefore a quorum, present.
- B. **Approval of previous meeting minutes:** Minutes of March 12, 2019 Public and Executive minutes were reviewed and approved as well as placing Executive minutes under seal, passed unanimously.
- C. **Accounting of funds:** No new statements.

D. Reports

Chair: Grills Preserve

RINHS annual dinner at Quonset Club: Rhode Island Natural History Survey 25th Annual meeting and award ceremony in North Kingstown, on Friday, March 29. This is the organization that hosted their BioBlitz event on the Kenyon Crossroads property several years ago, the Grants may attend. HLT will renew its membership in this organization, annual fee of \$100.

Friends of the HLT:

Grant reported that the discussion regarding funding request to be continued at next meeting.

Solstice: Baker reported she spoke with Anthony Pelloni with regard to hosting the June solstice event at his farm stand, Pelloni stated he would like to host the event, but not this year as he is in the process of doing major replanting of his berry bushes. Other properties were considered without any consensus, will discuss further.

Land Management and Stewardship:

- **Trail Camera:** Wilcox reported he has purchased a camera for \$80 includes memory card and batteries. It is set up in his backyard and he's testing out different settings, including night vision, motion sensitive. Will follow up with a more detailed report at next meeting.
- **Expansion of Depot Square/Brushy Brook Trail update:** Buford met with Anderson and Fuller, who we have hired to write the significant wetlands alteration wetlands permit at site, including Wood in discussion via phone. Plan is to have permit submitted by end of April. Wood is going to call Jensen, who designed the trail, to discuss next steps.
- **Crown Farm Preserve planning parking:** RFP went out for parking lot engineering, proposals are due April 1. Johnson reported on farm field hay lease, spoke with Gary Marsh and Barry James, James is interested, Marsh is not due to distance. James offered \$300 / year. Johnson will get paperwork to James, 3 year lease to be paid annually.

- **Kenyon Crossroad Trail repair:** Discussion regarding past problem of flooded Beaver Flood Trail, we need new boards, poor original design. Buford and Wilcox will visit site this Friday afternoon and review.

Funding and Grants: Anderson put in grant for \$500 for legislative grants.

E. Public Forum: Windsor reported on a recent problem with an unleashed dog on TNC Canonchet trails that strayed onto abutting fields on Windsor's horse farm and began aggressively chasing horses in field. Dog owners did little to control dog. Windsor would like to see addition of specific signage at parking lot trailhead regarding all dogs must be leashed. Windsor will contact Cheryl Wiitala at TNC to discuss further.

F. Executive Session [pursuant to RI Gen. Law Ch.46 42-46-5a (5)]. At 8:11 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. Wilcox seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Return from Executive Session at 8:25 PM

G. Adjourn 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted
Carol Baker, Secretary