

**HOPKINTON LAND TRUST**  
**TRUSTEES SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**November 12, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Marilyn Grant, *Chair*, Sarah Windsor, *Vice-Chair*, Carol Baker, *Secretary*, Cyndy Johnson, Mary Gibbons, Ed Wood, Paul Wilcox (*arrived 6:45*), *Trustees*, Tom Thompson, *Associate Trustee*, Harvey Buford, *Hopkinton Conservation Commission*, Chris Anderson, *HLT Administrative Assistant*, Marci Redinger, *Friends of the HLT*

**ABSENT:** None

**A. CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM by Ms. Grant, with six trustees and therefore a quorum, present.

**B. REVIEW OF 2018 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes were reviewed to prepare for following agenda topics. It was noted that we have worked on 3 of the 6 properties listed in 2018.

**C. Business Meeting**

Crown Farm Preserve parking update: Grant reported that Hugo and Jonathan Key, from Key Corp, met with Grant, Buford, and Anderson last Monday to review site plans and discuss overall plan and tree removal. Key reported they are getting bids for tree removal, tree companies are slammed and booking into mid-December. Work will take 1-2 weeks after tree removal is complete.

**D. Strategic Planning Discussion and Goal Setting:** Hopkinton Land Trust (HLT) and Friends of the Hopkinton Land Trust (Friends).

Anderson began the discussion with the need for both organizations to have strategic plans, and reminded us of the HLT and Friends mission statements.

**HLT Mission:** The mission of the Hopkinton Land Trust is to protect the town of Hopkinton's rural character and natural heritage. This is accomplished by preserving land as open space through acquisition and conservation easement while maintaining, where possible, public access to these natural resources.

**Friends Mission:** The Friends of the Hopkinton Land Trust support the ideas and mission of the Hopkinton Land Trust. The Friends group serve as volunteers to assist the HLT and its' seven trustee members appointed by the Town of Hopkinton. The Friends may participate in stewardship activities such as property inventories, trailblazing and maintenance as well as assist the HLT with other land trust activities such as publicity, fundraising, education, leading hikes and grant writing.

Discussion ensued as to the relationship and working relationships between the 2 groups. The following goals and action lists were agreed upon:

**Goals for the next 5 years:**

1. To have an active stewardship program with monthly work days
2. To continue to have 3 or 4 educational and/or fun events/walks per year
3. Build stronger partnerships with other like-minded organizations (WPWA, Charlestown Land Trust and Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust)
4. Get assistance with seeking out Grants
5. Develop a procurement plan – Questions have come up regarding what the Friends should pay for and what should be paid by HLT.
6. Take a stand regarding wind & solar projects.

**Action List**

1. To publish a brochure that includes both organizations and to decide best methods for distribution of the brochure. Experienced help is needed, particularly with mass marketing and how to make QR's.
2. To amend the Friends by-laws to include limitations on expenditures, once we've decided what those limitations would be. Develop a paragraph that outlines limitations on expenditures.
3. To add 'community building' to the Friends mission statement.
4. To plan an event or events celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the HLT.
5. Write a public statement regarding wind & solar in our area.
6. Better define what the HLT goal is for land acquisition? Should there be a new bond in the future? Should it be an acreage based goal or specific property dependent.

**E. PUBLIC FORM:** None

**F. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** [pursuant to RI Gen. Law Ch.46 42-46-5a (5)] At 7:58 PM, Wood moved that we go into executive session, pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a)(5), to discuss potential land acquisitions. Windsor seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Return from executive session at 8:10 PM

**G. ADJOURN** at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Baker, Secretary