

HOPKINTON LAND TRUST
TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

September 24, 2019

PRESENT: Marilyn Grant, *Chair*, Sarah Windsor, *Vice- Chair*, Carol Baker, *Secretary*, Mary Gibbons, Paul Wilcox and Ed Wood, *Trustees*. Tom Thompson, *Associate Trustee*. Harvey Buford, *Hopkinton Conservation Commission*.

ABSENT: Cyndy Johnson, *Trustee*.

- A. Call to order** at 7:04 by Grant with 6 trustees, and therefore a quorum, present.
- B. Approval of previous meeting minutes:** Minutes of August 27, 2019 Public and Executive minutes were reviewed and approved, passed unanimously, including sealing of Executive Minutes.
- C. Accounting of funds:** Citizens as of August 31, 2019, \$38,811. Webster's \$641,202.

D. Reports

Chair:

Strategic Plan meeting: Will be in place of annual meeting in conjunction with Friends of the HLT tentatively scheduled on November 12 at 6 PM at Crandall House. Anderson will be gathering materials for distribution.

20th Anniversary Celebration: Anderson email first meeting is November 4

Friends of the HLT: Anderson emailed that Martin Bide may take over trail maintenance group.

Land Management and Stewardship:

- **Kenyon Crossroads trail work:** Nothing new.
- **Crown Farm Preserve planning:** Triangle property transfer issue. Wood spent some time in the Town Clerks office researching deeds and spoke with our council McCoy who both agreed that no action is needed in terms of formal land transfer. Wood shared a memo to be sent to Town Manager requesting permission to use this land for purposes of parking with the hope that this deal with this issue.
- **Grills Wildlife Sanctuary Encroachment:** Grant reminded us of encroachment by abutting family with mowing paths across land and camping on our property. Police contacted them, they apologized. Discussion ensued as to how to follow to ensure they are complying. This is the second time we've had problems, we will find first letter and plan a site visit. They rebuilt and moved a stone wall. Should we determine the boundary and put up a new fence.
 - Steph Sullivan says she hears ATV's on property every night. We will send her a copy of what the property rules are, and suggest that she call the police when she hears them. It is difficult for us to follow up after the fact.
- **Grills Preserve Parking Upgrade, gate/entry**

- Thompson reported that cars has been doing donuts in our new gravel parking lot, kicking up the gravel. Frustrating as the contractors did a good job. Buford suggested posting sign when parking lot is closed, Closed Sunrise and Sunset, Buford will contact sign maker. And we will ask police to keep an eye out on the property. Wood suggested writing an ordinance, better enforcement. Grant will research with Rupert Friday from RI Land Trust Council.

- **Funding and Grants:** Nothing

E. Old Business: N/A

F. New Business: Award Bid Crown Farm parking construction

Bid opening was Monday, 9/16, advertised late in Westerly Sun on 9/8, due to errors, and we received only one response from Sunset Design (Russ Tuttle), referencing earlier plan, not the most recent plan. One vendor called next day asking if they could submit. Discussion ensued, Wood made a motion, seconded by Baker to readvertise bid with 3 week time to respond, by 10/18 at 3 pm. Will advertise in the Sun and Grant will ensure that Town Hall will have packets available for interested parties.

G. Public Forum:

- a. Buford reported that HHA/RIHHC (State Preservation Officer)/Town awarded bid to, Dr. Alex Martin, PhD from University of New Hampshire, with kickoff meeting on October 11 from 10 AM – 3 PM for historic survey and inventory of Manitou Hassannash preserve ceremonial landscape, including LIDAR measurements. All are welcome to attend.
- b. Buford reported that tomorrow deadline for comments for proposed DEM wetland regulation changes. Meeting last week had over 100 people.

H. Executive Session [pursuant to RI Gen. Law Ch.46 42-46-5a (5)]. At 8:36 PM, Wilcox moved that we go into executive session, pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a)(5), to discuss potential land acquisitions. Wood seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Return from Executive Session at 8:49 PM

I. Adjourn: 8:49 PM

Respectfully submitted
Carol Baker, Secretary