

HOPKINTON LAND TRUST
TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
February 25, 2020

PRESENT: Sarah Windsor, *Vice- Chair*, Carol Baker, *Secretary*, Mary Gibbons and Cyndy Johnson, *Trustees*.
Harvey Buford, *Conservation Commission*.

ABSENT: Marilyn Grant, *Chair*, Paul Wilcox, Ed Wood, *Trustees*.

A. Call to order at 7:08 by Windsor with 4 trustees, and therefore a quorum, present.

B. Approval of previous meeting minutes: Minutes of January 28, 2020 Public and Executive minutes were reviewed and approved, passed unanimously, including sealing of Executive Minutes.

C. Accounting of funds: Citizen's \$37,225; Webster \$664,313.

D. Reports

Chair: Meeting Schedule: One in March, on 3/24, 3/10 if needed

Land and Water Summit registration: March 7: Grant and Windsor and Buford currently registered

Chariho Rotary: Grant and Anderson gave a presentation about HLT and Friends which was well received.

Subcommittees:

Advocacy:

Goat Rocks: AP 18, Lot 7K: Johnson reported on a proposed cluster subdivision in front of the Planning Board with potential with open space which abuts Goat Rocks. Property owner Joe Catelli, site walk Monday 3/2 at 1:30 PM, Johnson, Windsor, Buford and Wilcox will attend.

Stone Ridge: AP 11, Lot 47A, off Exit 2: 250 ac lot. Proposed pre-app large scale solar development proposed. Remnants of historic Narragansett Trail and Narragansett artifacts exist on this property. Buford reported he spoke with Town Planner Lamphere, question arises whether this use is allowed by right.

Friends of the HLT: Highlights of the coming year from an email from Chris Anderson:

Monthly Work Days are about to begin for 2020. Volunteers are needed, many hands make light work for spring clean on many of the Hopkinton Land Trust properties. We will meet on the 3rd Friday of each month at 9 AM. Dates are as follows: March 20 (Grills Preserve), April 17, May 15, June 19. Please bring hand tools.

Other Dates to remember:

- Spring Birding Morning: Saturday, May 2nd 8am - location TBD
- Annual Garden Party Fundraiser – Saturday, June 6th
- Music in the Valley Saturdays – July 11, August 8 & Sept 12, Depot Square Park
- Sunday, August 30, 20th Anniversary Celebration: Crown Farm Preserve

Land Management and Stewardship:

Crown Farm Preserve planning: Grant emailed us to report Key Corp visited site to view minor erosion, minor grading and more gravel may be needed.

Buford brought up discussion of need to do major trail work, hire skidder contractor. Windsor will reach out with Grant and come up dates in the next couple of weeks for all to meet out there and determine need.

Depot Square/Brushy Brook Trail update: No updates. March 2 close of notice period.

Baseline Documentation Reports: We are submitting request to URI class for 3 Baseline Documentation report for \$250 each: Grills preserve, Crown Farm, Mechanic Street.

Funding and Grants: \$15K was approved by Town council for HLT at budget workshop on February 13.

E. Old Business: None

F. New Business: None

G. Public Forum: Buford discussed Narragansett Trail established by Narragansett chapter of Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), seeking to restore Narragansett trail to connect places that used to be connected by it, from Lantern Hill in Connecticut to Wordens Pond in South Kingstown, approx. 44 miles. Mostly established in Connecticut, only 4 miles maintained in RI. AMC is reaching out to 4 towns, Hopkinton, Richmond, Charlestown and South Kingstown to begin dialogue.

H. Executive Session [pursuant to RI Gen. Law Ch.46 42-46-5a (5)]. At 8:04 PM, Gibbons 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.

I. Adjourn: 8:21 PM

Respectfully submitted
Carol Baker, Secretary