

**HOPKINTON LAND TRUST**  
**TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 26, 2021 - Crandall House**

**PRESENT:** Marilyn Grant, *Chair*, Sarah Windsor, *Vice-Chair*, Carol Baker, *Secretary*, Mary Gibbons, Tom Thompson and Cyndy Johnson, *Trustees*. Bob Marvel, *Hopkinton Town Council*

**ABSENT:** Jason Parent, *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 June 23, 2021 Public and Executive minutes were reviewed and several minor corrections were made. Johnson made a motion to approve updated minutes and to seal the Executive minutes, which was seconded by Windsor. Motion passed unanimously.

**C. Old Business:**

1. Chair and Member Reports:

- i. Meeting Schedule: August 16 (Special Meeting, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday), September 27, October 25
- ii. Story Walk: Thompson reported that the Library Story Walk Project is complete and open, located along the trail at Grills Wildlife Sanctuary on Chase Hill Road. This is a collaboration between the Hopkinton Land Trust and the Ashaway and Langworthy Public Libraries. Thompson reported that the walk is well and done and recommended all to visit.

2. Budget and Funding Update: Grant reported the balances as of the end of June are Citizens \$20,281 and Webster \$666,094.

3. Subcommittees:

i. Advocacy – Update on Plans before the Planning Board: Johnson updated us on the following projects:

1. Stone Ridge: Master Plan was approved by a vote of 3-2
2. Comolli: Master Plan was approved by a vote of 5-0
3. Skunk Hill Rd: Moved to August 4 meeting: Town Planner Lamphere sent a notice to the Land Trust as abutters to notify us of Brushy Brook Plan for 140 houses.

ii. Policy – Property vandalism response and trail use guidelines: Marvel reported that Police Chief Palmer and Attorney Sypole made changes and Marvel will put on Town Council to schedule a public hearing.

4. Friends/HLT: Grant reported that Anderson submitted a legislative grant for equipment (an iPad) needed for web-based mapping system, she spoke with Kate Sayles, new head of RILTC. The grant was successful.

5. Land Mgmt and Stewardship

- i. Crown Farm Preserve: Trail head clearing (invasive plants), trail clearing and gate installation projects. Grant reported she and Harvey Buford met with Russ Tuthill at the site, to discuss removing invasive Japanese knotweed invading area around sign. Also spoke about trail clearing, to continue what he did last spring. Johnson will coordinate with coordinate putting a bid together with Anderson to choose a vendor for the project.
- ii. Depot Square: Grant reported work has been completed including edge trimming, mowing and trimming trails and overhanging trees over fishing platform. Thinks 2x/year will suffice. She also reported someone is storing small blue plastic kayak under fishing desk.
- iii. Grills Preserve: Burn clearing, agricultural field project. Thompson reported he has sent

repeated emails to Ashaway Fire District, has not heard back. Hoping to get piles burnt by this fall. Thompson also reported he is waiting to hear back from Lucas Marsh with regards to status of agricultural fields

- iv. Pelloni Preserve: YCL Crew Day report: 3 workers appeared, trail clearing for several hours. Cyndy, Mary attempting to marking boundary and trails with ArcGIS Online web-mapping app and Bad Elf Bluetooth GPS. More work needs to be done.
- v. James: Forest Management Plan: We have received forest management plan by Mark Tremblay. Property management plan still needs to be done, Johnson, Parent and Gibbons agreed to work on it. McCoy needs all property owner to sign warranty deed, by October 31. Thompson will talk with Doug James about where to cut cordwood. Baker reported we have received a draft copy of the survey for the property from Garofalo. Several folks had a site visit and walked about half the boundary. Some monumentation missing. Baker spoke with Sam White from Garofalo and asked us to mark up a map, we agreed once we finish the remaining bounds.

**D. New Business:** None

**E. Public Forum/Trustees Forum:**

- 1. Public Forum: None
- 2. Trustees Forum:
  - i. Thompson reported he has had problems accessing HLT dropbox, several other Trustees reported the same. Grant will get updated info from Anderson on how to access.
  - ii. Grant reported on a she received today for \$500 for Luminence/NEARI fund analysis for a Native American ceremonial stone pile on Crowne Farm property. Grant will put on agenda for next meeting.

**F. Executive Session:** If needed [pursuant to RI Gen. Law Ch.46 42-46-5a (5)].

At 8:06 PM, Baker moved that we go into executive session, pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a)(5), to discuss potential land acquisitions, and to allow Buford and Parent to attend. Windsor seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Reconvene in Open Session at 8:29 PM

Motion to seal the minutes of Executive Session: Thompson made a motion to seal the Executive Minutes, seconded by Baker. Passed unanimously.

**I. Adjourn** 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted  
Carol Baker, Secretary