

HOPKINTON LAND TRUST
TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

October 22, 2019

PRESENT: Marilyn Grant, *Chair*, Sarah Windsor, *Vice Chair*, Cynthia Johnson, Mary Gibbons, *Trustees*, Tom Thompson, *Associate Trustee*, Harvey Buford, *Hopkinton Conservation Commission*

ABSENT: Carol Baker, *Secretary*, Ed Wood, Paul Wilcox, *Trustees*.

- A. Call to order** at 7:04 by Grant with 4 trustees, and therefore a quorum, present.
- B. Approval of previous meeting minutes:** Minutes of 9/24/19 Public and Executive minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously.
- C. Accounting of funds:** Citizens \$21,976 (includes transfer tax money from Bradford Dam property and due \$17-18,000 reimbursement from DEM and \$7000 from Stewardship account)

D. Reports

Chair:

Grant has received request from the Land Trust Council for annual dues. Windsor proposed sending \$200, seconded by Johnson, approved unanimously.

Meeting Schedule

Strategic Planning Meeting is scheduled on 11/12 at 6pm at Crandall House.

12/10 Meeting, (? Christmas Party) start at 6

Grant discussed ordinance research on giving town police authority in enforcing trespassing on HLT properties. Aquidneck Island has a 'policy'. Grant will call Rupert Friday to see if there are any ordinances in RI.

Thank you letters were sent to Frank Epps, Energy Development Partners for \$20,000 donation, and for the donations at the Grills Preserve parking project to Gordon Ulner, Rawson Materials for the stones and Cherenzia for the trucking. (Letter to Cherenzia will need to be sent to correct address this week.)

Friends of the HLT: Meeting November 4 at Chris Anderson's home to begin planning and discussion of HLT 20th Anniversary. In the future meetings will not be on Monday so Windsor can attend.

Land Management and Stewardship:

Kenyon Crossroads: Flooding reported by Matt Busby on Beaver Brook Trail. Discussion of how and when to move forward on project. Buford to text Peter Jensen to ask about this on his next trip to RI.

Crown Farm Preserve planning: Triangular lot has been transferred to HLT, Map 5, lot 105. Al DiOrio has offered to survey it, pro bono. The town attorney will write up the deed as transfer/bargain sale.

Grills Wildlife Sanctuary Encroachment, Rhodes

Letter dated 9/4/13 was found and discussed need to verify property line by survey. The survey was done 2007 by Crossman Engineering for TNC. The need to send another letter referencing the previous letter and include part of the survey was discussed and proposed that John McCoy could write the letter and send via certified mail.

Grills Preserve: Grant reported there are 'lock problems'. The proposed 'daisy chain' of locks by Amtrak, DEM, HLT is not working and unable to open gate.

Depot Square Brushy Brook

DEM made request for more information, including changes to the map (being taken care of by CJ Doyle), abutters information and narrative.

Funding and Grants: None

- E. Old Business:** Discussion on award of bid for Crown Farm parking construction. 4 bids received from: Key Corp \$17,800, David Benn \$15,000, Sunset Design \$32,500 and D'Ambra Construction \$63,000. Windsor made a motion to accept bid pending approval of contract and completion date to Key Corp. Contract will include site visit, removal of tree and payment schedule and will ask Key Corp to draw up contract. Motion seconded by Johnson, passed unanimously. Windsor agreed to call Key Corp to ask for them to draw up contract and ask about removal of 20" diameter dead oak tree and applying grass/loam in the spring. Question of how much stone and gravel will be needed for project. When contract officially awarded and signed, will need to notify other applicants.

- F. New Business:** None

- G. Public Forum:** Johnson raised question of whether HLT should have public opinion on wind and solar energy, decision to discuss at Strategic Planning meeting on 11/12/19.

Buford brought up question of state wide referendum on requiring license plates for ATVs, has been discussed in the past with little traction.

Buford will send information on trespassers on GWS on 4 wheelers to HLT.

- H. Executive Session** [pursuant to RI Gen. Law Ch.46 42-46-5a (5)]. At 8:26 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.

Return from Executive Session at 8:35 PM

- I. Adjourn 8:35 PM**

Respectfully submitted
Mary Gibbons, Trustee