

**HOPKINTON LAND TRUST**  
**TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

**February 23, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Marilyn Grant, *Chair*, Sarah Windsor, *Vice-Chair*, Carol Baker, *Secretary*, Tom Thompson and Cyndy Johnson, *Trustees*. Harvey Buford, *Hopkinton Conservation Commission*. Bob Marvel, *Hopkinton Town Council liaison*, Joe Moreau, Jason Parent, Elaine Caldarone, *public*.

**ABSENT:** Mary Gibbons, *trustee*.

*Per the Hopkinton Town Council, and due to the COVID-19 virus, this MEETING WAS HELD REMOTELY via Zoom.*

**A. Call to order** at 7:00 by Grant with 5 trustees, and therefore a quorum, present.

**B. Approval of previous meeting minutes:** Minutes of January 26, 2021 Public and Executive minutes were reviewed and approved with minor corrections, passed unanimously, including sealing of Executive Minutes.

**C. Accounting of funds:** Citizen's \$9,583; Webster \$665,962.

**D. Reports**

Chair:

Finalizing Contract with Garofalo Engineering for Survey: Grant reported the contract with Garofalo for Class 1 survey for James property has been signed, after changes requested by Baker's conversation with Garofalo representative Sam O'Neill to clarify language and correction of acreage values. O'Neill said he hoped crew would get into field sometime in the next several weeks to begin.

Meeting schedule: Upcoming meeting dates: March 23, April 27, May 25

Correspondence: Email received from a member of the public inquiring if there is any opportunity for potentially leasing an acre or two in Hopkinton to develop a small orchard. He is applying for a DEM Specialty Crop grant this spring in the hopes of introducing an entirely new crop to Rhode Island and available land is the biggest obstacle. Grant replied interest in his proposal, requesting more details.

Subcommittees:

Advocacy: Update on plans before the Planning Board

Comolli Solar Project: Johnson reported a letter was sent to the Town Planner Lamphere was advised there had been no response to the Land Trust from Comolli. With a new master concept plan underway, CS requested input from Conservation Commission and has agreed to a site walk to discuss open space issues and other areas of concern.

Fairview Ave: No report

Stone Ridge: Harvey reported that Stone Ridge had been asked to appear at the March 3 PB meeting. Harvey has met on site with Sergio Cherenzia and Mike Marano about

protection of Narragansett trail and the ceremonial landscape areas. The 40 acre open space question is not yet resolved.

Policy: Property vandalism response:

Thompson reported he sent a draft regarding RV damage and vandalism at HLT properties to Police Chief Palmer about 3 weeks ago. He has not yet heard back from the Chief, he will follow-up with a phone call.

Friends/HLT: Hoping to schedule Music in the Valley program in September.

Funds raised to date for Brushy Brook Trail total \$16,100. Grant reported she received an estimate from Peter Jensen to rebuild the spur trail for \$15,800.

Land Mgmt and Stewardship:

Depot Square/Brushy Brook Trail update:

Grant initiated a discussion regarding possible spring opening of main or access route versus closing during spring mud season for protection of surface. Sarah was contacted by Ana Flores who would like to donate a poetry box with a poem by her son, poet Noah Warren, in memory of Ed Wood. Marilyn reported that kiosks and maps, needed at the site, are being funded by Conservation Commission.

Manitou Hassanash:

LIDAR presentation was discussed briefly. Jason Parent offered to provide some LIDAR mapping on some of our other properties in the future.

Funding and Grants: Grant reported that the Town Council has included \$15,000 in the budget for 2021-22 for the Land Trust. Monies come from the real estate transfer tax.

**E. Old Business:** None

**F. New Business:** None

**G. Public Forum:** Joe Moreau thanked the trustees of the Land Trust for our service and hopes we will attend a Hopkinton employee appreciation event he is planning later in the year which will include Town board and commission members.

**H. Executive Session** [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. Johnson seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Reconvene in Open Session at 8:17 PM

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

**I. Adjourn** 8:18 PM

Respectfully submitted  
Carol Baker, Secretary