

HOPKINTON LAND TRUST
TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
December 20, 2021 - Crandall House

PRESENT: Marilyn Grant, *Chair*, Sarah Windsor, *Vice-Chair*, Carol Baker, *Secretary*, Tom Thompson, Mary Gibbons, Jason Parent, Cyndy Johnson, *Trustees*

ABSENT: None.

- A. **Call to order** at 7:08 by Grant with 7 trustees, and therefore a quorum, present.
- B. **Approval of previous meeting minutes:** Minutes of November 22, 2021 Public minutes were reviewed. There was no Executive Session. Parent made a motion to approve Public minutes, which was seconded by Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

C. **Old Business**

1. Chair and Member reports: Meeting schedule

Annual meeting: January 10, 6 PM

Regular Session: January 24, 7 PM

Public hearing Campground Licenses January. We received abutter notifications regarding renewal of several campground licenses.

Trustee candidates: Windsor reported that Alana and Steve Russell expressed interest in the possibility of being a Trustee and/or members of the Friends group and plan on attending the next meeting. Other names were also discussed. See if there interested in being associate members to start.

2. Budget and Funding update: Citizen's \$ 20,136.30; Webster \$270,576

Grant reported there are funds available via Champlin Foundation Grant for composting toilets; it is unclear if we have any suitable properties

3. Subcommittees:

Advocacy: Update on plans before the Planning Board:

Comolli: Easement being developed by McCoy, proposal from Comolli for trail clearing:
Nothing new to report

Policy: Nothing new to report

4. Friends/HLT:

Wild and Scenic Rivers grant: Application can come from Friends or HLT. Max \$4,000

Discussion for fishing platform/bench on fishing platform at Brushy Brook.
equipment for invasive plants control/removal. More research required.

5. Land Mgmt and Stewardship:

Depot Square/Brushy Brook: Plan for invasive removal .

Thompson reported he believes best approach is to buy a commercial grade weed wacker, and cut 3x/year for a minimum of 3-4 years. Only way to permanently and safely remove bamboo.

Grills Preserve:

Burn clearing, Ashaway fire chief still not returning his phone calls.

Agricultural field project update: nothing from Marshes, Thompson reported that pandemic has created a backlog of work for them. He'll follow up with them.

Crown Farm Preserve: Planning for improvements, subcommittee: Spring work projects need to be initiated for trail clearing, will coordinate with Friends group.

C. New Business: Award bid for Landscape/Construction Services

Bid opening on December 13 by Elizabeth Cook Martin for Hopkinton Land Trust Landscape and Construction Contractor RFQ. We received 2 proposals from the following:

Larlham Landscape Construction: 3945 Post Rd, Charlestown, RI 02813

Sunset Design and Gardens: 119E Reuteman Rd, N. Stonington, CT 06359

Both proposals provided hourly and daily rates for both equipment and labor. Both were discussed and it was deemed that Sunset Designs was more cost effective. Windsor made a motion that we accept Sunset Designs and Gardens proposal for contract for landscaping services for a period of 3 years, commencing on January 1, as outlined in proposal dated December 2021 to the Town. Parent seconded. Passed unanimously. Thompson will contact Tuthill.

E. Public Forum/Trustees Forum: None

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

Discuss potential land acquisition At 7:20 PM, Thompson 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.

Reconvene in Open Session at 7:37 PM

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

G. Adjourn