

HOPKINTON LAND TRUST
TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

October 24, 2022

Crandall House

PRESENT: Sarah Windsor *Chair*, Jason Parent, *Vice Chair* Carol Baker, *Secretary*, Marilyn Grant, Jason Parent, Alana Russell and Cyndy Johnson, *Trustees*. Bob Marvel, Town Council liaison.

ABSENT: None

- A. Call meeting to order** at 7:03 by Windsor with 7 trustees, and therefore a quorum, present.
- B. Approval of Previous meeting minutes:** Minutes of September 24 Public and Executive minutes were reviewed, minor corrections were made. Gibbons made a motion to approve the amended minutes and seal the executive minutes, seconded by Johnson, passed unanimously.
- C. Accounting of Funds:** Grant reported the following balances: Citizens \$11,863, Webster \$271,472. Grant reported she and Anderson met with the Finance Director and Town manager, who explained \$20K was received in January from DEM, not reflected yet due to dual entry accounting system, will show up once they close books on FY 22-23.
- D. Chair and Member Reports**
1. Chair Report: Meeting schedule and dates: Next meeting November 28, 2022.
 - i. Westerly Land Trust : Polly Coon Bridge: Jennifer Fusco, Exec Dir of Westerly Land Trust, contacted us regarding drafting a plaque for Paul Meyer and Ted Dionne posthumously to honor their work, hopefully by end of year. Will be low key affair, hopefully in December. Joe Moreau, Director of Public Welfare, heard about this from agenda, contacted Windsor asking if Ted's family, who is from Ashaway, is aware of this. Anderson is coordinating.
 2. Funding and Grants:
 - i. Depot Square reimbursement: Anderson and Grant are meeting tomorrow to finish compiling volunteer work paperwork for submittal to DEM
 3. Reports
 - i. Advocacy: Johnson reported on the following 2 projects currently before the Planning Board-
 1. Brushy Brook: Planning Board will hold preliminary hearing on 11/2 and a review is scheduled on 11/30.
 2. Skunk Hill Solar: Johnson reported she spoke with Town Planner Talia Jalette about easement on Goat Rocks from Skunk Hill Solar. Jalette advised that HLT send a letter to PB expressing the land trust's position regarding our desire for no land acquisition or trail maintenance. Letter will be sent after review by board members. Planning Board will be holding an informational hearing on 12/7, followed by a meeting on 12/14 where a decision is possible.

- ii. Friends/HLT: Depot Square Dedication Event: 10/23/22 at 2 PM, in honor of Edward and Linda Wood, was well attended by 39 people. A commemoration plaque was installed on the gazebo.

4. Land Management and Stewardship

- i. Comolli: Johnson, Grant, Parent walked newly trimmed trails with George Comolli, trails are complete. Trails need to be marked and signage updated from Polly Coon Bridge.
- ii. Trail development at Pelloni: Parent still needs to reach out to Anderson to find a time in next couple of weeks for Friends work party to blaze trails.
- iii. Potential Brushy Brook entrance sign: New sign and plaque was mounted for the event by Gary Marsh.
- iv. Beaver Flood Trail: Grant spoke with Buford at Brushy Brook event, Buford agreed to coordinate project, need to go out to bid, write RFQ, coordinate. Gibbons agreed to assist.

E. Old Business:

Southern Sky Solar tree/fence repair:

Windsor reported that a payment voucher has been submitted. Hopefully check has gone out.

F. New Business: None

G. Public Forum / Trustees Forum: Marvel forwarded an email from Chip Heil regarding Wild and Scenic, WPWA grants, \$4,000. Perhaps invasive removal and native replacement at Brushy Brook. Russell will follow up with Heil.

H. Executive Session [pursuant to RI Gen. Law Ch.46 42-46-5a (5)]. At 7:49 PM, Grant moved that we go into executive session, pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a)(5), to discuss potential land acquisitions. Russell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Reconvene in Open Session at 8:12 PM

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

I. Adjourn: 8:13 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Baker, Secretary