

CITY OF WARWICK

Planning Department

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WARWICK LAND TRUST

February 27, 2018

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order: Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM Trustees in attendance were Mary Grady, Ward 1 at-large trustee, Michael Zarum – Ward 2, Vanessa Venturini – Ward 3, Bruce Webb – Ward 3 at-large trustee, Leslie Derrig – Ward 4, Jane Austin – Ward 5, Bob Germani – Ward 7, and Tim Twohig – Ward 9. Also present was Sue Cabeceiras of the Planning Department. Absent trustees included Juan Cano- Ward 1 and Derek Andersen - Ward 8 (Chair). The meeting took place in the Internet Lodge of the Pilgrim Senior Center. Leslie chaired the meeting as vice chair due to Derek's absence.

Approval of January 2018 meeting minutes: Jane made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mike and approved unanimously.

The trustees discussed Passeonkquis Cove. Sue received sent the sign created by Juan to the DPW sign shop. Mary reported that Carol Trocki has had family health issues and has not yet completed her review. Sue has sent the Conservation Easements that were executed by the Mayor for both Passeonkquis and Conimicut to DEM.

The trustees suggested a press release be issued after conservation easements are executed and recorded to inform the public of these properties. Mary had written a synopsis of the Passeonkquis properties to put on the Land Trust website. Jane presented a motion that this language be added to the website, this motion was seconded by Vanessa, and unanimously approved. Leslie will write a similar synopsis on Conimicut for the next meeting for trustee approval.

The trustees discussed the Land and Water Summit. At the January meeting, the trustees voted to provide a fund to cover Bob and Vanessa's cost of attending the summit. Vanessa will be presenting, and therefore will not need to pay for the Summit. Leslie presented a motion to use the Land Trust funds to pay for any other trustee who wishes to attend the Summit. Vanessa seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Derek has submitted a request for a leave of absence due to health issues. Mike presented a motion to approve this request; Leslie seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

The Trustees discussed the election of officers. Jane presented a

motion to approve the following slate of officers: Derek, Chair; Leslie, Vice-Chair; Juan, Treasurer; and Tim, Secretary. Mike seconded the motion that was unanimously approved.

Mary reported that she, Juan and Sue had met with Alice Westervelt, owner of property in Governor Francis Farms. Alice is interested in preserving 70 + acres while still maintain ownership and not allowing the public to access the property. She had previously discussed options with Joe Bachand of NRCS. Mary agreed to speak with her contact at the Nature Conservancy about this property. She spoke with Scott Comings who said he was not interested in a long term project that he suspected this would become. Sue agreed to contact Joe Bachand and she met with him to discuss this project. NRCS is very interested in preserving this property and offered several funding opportunities. Joe will contact Alice to discuss resurrecting this project.

Bruce brought the property located at 700 Sandy Lane to the attention of the Trustees. This 4 acre parcel abuts Little Pond and has a boarded up house on the property. It appears this property is located in Ward 6, which does not have a land trust representative. Bruce will find out the tax status of the property.

Jane made a motion to end the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mary and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Submitted by Sue Cabeceiras