

HOPKINTON LAND TRUST
TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

April 23, 2018

PRESENT: Marilyn Grant, *Chair*, Sarah Windsor, *Vice-Chair*, Cyndy Johnson, Mary Gibbons, Paul Wilcox, *Trustees*, Harvey Buford, *Hopkinton Conservation Commission*, Tom Thompson, *Associate Trustee*, Matt Busby and Amy Mocarsky, *adjacent landowners and volunteer stewards of Pelloni Preserve*

ABSENT: Carol Baker, *Secretary*, Ed Wood, *Trustees*

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

Due to members of public being present, discussion on encroachment at Pelloni Preserve (Plat 4, lot 121DD, trail easement on 121EE) ensued. Matt Busby and Amy Mocarsky report concern that ATV's are being driven on trails causing deep ruts in trails. They both report talking to drivers of ATV's multiple times. They say drivers appear to be teenagers and live on adjacent property. Discussion ensued on ways to remedy situation. Immediate need for signage that states 'No motorized vehicles allowed on property' and Busby and Mocarsky given 10 signs each of signs that could be posted on borders of property. Buford working on getting kiosk up. Grant will email Buford and ask for availability and arrange trail walk, and/or work party. Busby reports usually home be 3pm during the week. Thompson would like dedicated patrol man to be familiar with property and concerns in future.

Mocarsky and Busby left after Pelloni discussion

B. Approval of previous meeting minutes: Minutes of March 26, 2018 Public and Executive minutes were reviewed and approved with corrections, passed unanimously.

C. Accounting of funds: Grant reported following: Citizens Bank \$38,144, and that account was debited for \$130.65 for checks, Websters \$181,468, Stewardship \$12,065.

D. Reports

Chair. No report

Friends of the Hopkinton Land Trust. Music in the Valley performances scheduled for 2nd Saturdays in July, August and September, July 14, August 11, September 8 from 4pm to 7p. The Friends are using their \$5100 grant from the RI Foundation to have a pavilion delivered to the Depot Square Park and then having a picnic table placed inside the pavilion when not in use for concerts.

Land Management and Stewardship:

Expansion of Depot Square/Brushy Book Trail: Work on Depot Square Park has stalled. HLT will now need to have wildlife monitoring done on the property and to ask for a 1 year extension of the grant money. CJ Doyle, Joe Klinger of Ecotones and Carol Trocki are all working together in anticipation of having to file a formal application with DEM for wetlands permitting. There are some important pieces that go into the formal application and must be completed prior to filing, so that work will be done soon, however it will likely be October before all of the data is collected.

Friends of HLT and HLT moving forward on selection and purchase of a shed to be placed on the Mechanic Street entrance to the property for around \$4000.

Grills Preserve invasives removal: Thompson reported Sunset Designs completed 2 days work on property and were almost able to complete entire job. He has spoken with Ashaway Fire Department to have a burn day in the fall and would like to have volunteers there that day to help clean up area (not assist with burn). Thompson also spoke of interest in completing job with addition of 4-5" of topsoil spread on cleared area and then seeded with hay mix. He will look into asking for quotes on this job.

Motion raised by Windsor, seconded by Gibbons to hire Sunset Designs for 1 day at the rate of \$1500/day for invasive removal on Grills Preserve. Motion passed unanimously.

210 Ashaway Rd. Thompson has not heard from Silver Leaf Arborists, will contact them on branch removal.

Thompson contacted David Benn requesting shed removal around June 1.

Wood Chip encroachment on Grills Wildlife Sanctuary: Thompson, Wilcox and Gibbons walked property to survey wood chips and observed wood chips on 3 sides of field, pictures taken. Discussion ensued to request Fosters to cease and desist dumping wood chips on HLT property and request meeting on site at their convenience to come up with solution to ones that have already been dumped. Will ask John McCoy to send registered letter to land owner to 1) request they cease and desist dumping wood chips on HLT property and 2) request meeting at their convenient to come up with solution to ones that have already been dumped.

Buford reported access denied to Gary Marsh to HLT field for agriculture hay lease by Fosters or whoever is staying in home.

Funding and Grants: none

E. Old Business: N/A

F. New Business: Motion raised by Windsor that due to sense of urgency and time sensitivity of DEM Wetlands Application as well as proven competence and professionalism of contractor HLT hire Carol Trocki for Wildlife Inventory and Habitat Assessment for Mechanic Street property for \$3210. Motion seconded by Johnson, passed unanimously.

Public Forum: Buford reported attending Solar Energy workshop and that Hopkinton is considering limiting to 30%, the amount of property to be used for solar energy.

H. Executive Session [pursuant to RI Gen. Law Ch.46 42-46-5a (5)] At 8:35 PM, Johnson moved that we go into executive session, pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a)(5), to discuss potential land acquisitions. Wilcox seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote. Unanimous vote to accept Thompson and Buford be present for Executive Session.

Return from Executive Session at 9 PM

I. Adjourn 9 PM

Respectfully submitted

Mary Gibbons, Trustee