

# **Tiverton Open Space and Land Preservation Commission**

**Minutes of Monday, July 15, 2013 Meeting at**

**Tiverton Town Hall, Tiverton, RI**

**Convened at 7:03 PM by Ginger Lacy. Present: Dennis Culberson, Brian Janes, Ginger Lacy, Gayle Lawrence, Garry Plunkett, Phil Schuyler and Martin VanHof.**

**Guests: Herb and Ronnie Sawin, Susan Gill, and Bill Gerlach**

## **Administrative Announcements and Reports**

**Treasurer's Report: Culberson indicated corrections as per discussion at our June meeting have been made by Town Treasurer's office. He noted recent expenditures for materials for Fort Barton stairway repair, a chainsaw, and to cover routine mowing and cutting.**

**Schuyler motioned report be accepted. Second by VanHof. Accepted.**

**June minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion by Lawrence to approved. Seconded by Plunkett. Approved unanimously.**

**Lacy announced Tiverton Land Trust's "Country Day at Pardon Gray" on September 21 has a booth for TOSC. Members agreed to**

**participate, noting public education benefit of event.**

**Lacy provided information on a discussion with Dave Roberts regarding changes to the Town of Tiverton website as it relates to TOSC and outdoor activities available to visitors to town. She shared the attractive “Discover Tiverton” card published in conjunction with Economic Development, which highlights and promotes areas of special interest in town.**

**Lacy reported that she will be participating in the Studio Tour July 20-21 with Mary Sexton at Mary’s studio. TOSC sponsored bird posters will be made available for a donation of \$10.**

## **Stewardship Reports**

**Weetamoo Woods: Plunkett reported the cost of hiring John Manchester to do the clearing of trees and heavy brush along the north wall of the meadow would be \$6,800. Members agreed we should explore other sources of funds (NRCS or Fish and Wildlife grants) and/or other tree removal contractors. Plunkett will contact Mr. Bonhomme of NRCS regarding grant opportunities. Lawrence and Plunkett will pursue this.**

**High Hill Point: Lacy reported visiting the area and noted the grass along the road and near the monument stone was not cut. Plunkett will contact Josh Lebreux to arrange for a mowing soon.**

**Highland Woods:** Plunkett reported some recent path and perimeter area cutting had been done by Lebreux and paid for by Tiverton Land Trust. On July 31, students from the Student Conservation Corp will work with land trust and open space members for 6 hours to clear areas of invasive plants. Wayne Browning of TLT is coordinating this.

**Ft. Barton Woods:** Schuyler reported no update on Fort Barton, except for the purchase of materials for stair replacement. He will contact Dick Bixby to check on the plan for that work.

**Old business:**

**Properties database (on hold)**

**Tree poster concept no update**

**New business:**

Janes reported that Rupert Friday of RI Land Trust sent information on expansion of the [www.exploreri.org](http://www.exploreri.org) website to include terrestrial trails, in addition to the canoe and kayak trails throughout the state. Lacy agreed to visit the site and make contact with Friday to provide any information needed from TOSC on Tiverton's trails.

Lacy reported that difficulties posting to the RI Secretary of State site should be remediated once Nancy Mello, Town Clerk, files the required application. Minutes and agendas from commissions will

then be fed directly and conveniently from the Secretary of State to the Town's website.

**Executive Session:**

Janes indicated he would send the Executive Session minutes of the June 17, 2013 to Lawrence to be sealed. Plunkett motioned to seal the minutes. Seconded Schuyler.

Plunkett motioned to enter Executive Session in accordance with RI General Law 42-46-5 (a) (5), regarding the possible acquisition of public property at 8:00 PM. Seconded by Culberson and unanimously approved.

**Adjournment:** VanHof motioned to adjourn at 8:25. Seconded by Culberson and unanimously approved.

Recorded by Lawrence.