

Tiverton Open Space and Land Preservation Commission

Minutes of April 20, 2015 Meeting at Senior Center, Tiverton, RI

Convened: 7:10 pm Present: Dennis Culberson, Brian Janes, Garry Plunkett, Gayle Lawrence, Phil Schuyler, Jim Spears and Martin VanHof.

Administrative Announcements and Reports

- The March 2015 regular and executive session meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as amended.**
- Treasurer's report accepted.**
- VanHof requested a contribution of \$100 to match the Conservation Commission's expenditure for grass plugs to restore eroded dunes at Fogland Beach. Motion by Lawrence, seconded by Culberson to approve expenditure from OS appropriation (6210-8015) approved unanimously.**
- Plunkett announced our summer volunteer is Cassie Boutsoulou.**
- Plunkett reported on the Bobolink program which several members attended.**
- Plunkett advised that the visit from Elise Tillinghast was postponed.**
- Plunkett reported that the Comp Plan process was moving forward with continued editing of the maps.**
- Schuyler reported on the coyote program held at Sandywoods. Monitoring of populations on Aquidneck and Jamestown continues.**

Stewardship Reports

A. Weetamoo Woods: Plunkett reported that 8 Rod Way and meadow mowing was complete.

B. High Hill Point: Plunkett initiated discussion regarding long term maintenance. Janes moved, seconded by Lawrence to continue regular mowing of the lawn area and one annual brush cut/mowing of the meadow area. Unanimously approved.

C. Highland Woods: Plunkett shared a history of the term “Fort Barton Woods” and suggested that for the future the entire woods be designated “Highland Woods” (with “Ft. Barton” pertaining to the redoubt area). Approved by consensus. There was also discussion of parking for the Highland Woods. It was agreed this would be planned following discussion with Chief Blakey and the Land Trust.

D. Fort Barton: Schuyler reports that trails are in good shape following a spring clean-up. He also noted that the flag was tattered, and the chains along the berm as well as the wooden steps on the hillside need repairs. He agreed to organize volunteers to undertake. Spears asked about the spotlight on the flag. Schuyler agreed to follow-up at Town Hall.

E. Pocasset Ridge: Plunkett reported on ongoing scouting for trail locations. He requested endorsement to approach the Tiverton Rod and Gun Club for input on future plans for hunting in the area. Approved by consensus.

Old Business

A. Janes noted that Tiverton Land Trust will join TOSC in the request to change the designation of properties to Open Space zoning during

the next map revision.

New Business

A. Culberson moved (seconded Lawrence) to continue monitoring Sin and Flesh Brook and Jack's Island for bacteria levels on a monthly basis. There will be no cost for this testing as the Harbor Commission is paying the fees.

Executive Session: At 8:41 pm it was moved (Janes/Schuyler) and approved to enter Executive Session.

Adjournment: At 9:44 pm a motion to adjourn was approved unanimously.

Submitted by B. Janes