

GLOCESTER LAND TRUST  
REGULAR MEETING  
October 10, 2017

The regular meeting of the Gloucester Land Trust took place on October 10, 2017 at the Gloucester Town Hall. Chair Stephen Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members in attendance: Stephen Mitchell, Russell K. Gross, Janine Pitocco, Roy Najecki, David Piccirillo and legal counsel John J. Bevilacqua, Sr.

Members Absent: Gene Cavaliere, Steven St. Pierre

Minutes: Judi Rix

Guests: Attorney Jane G. Gurzenda of Gorham & Gorham, Inc.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Open Forum Agenda Items Only:** Chairman Mitchell wanted to note that the agenda he attempted to send to the recording clerk for posting, never got through due to Wi-Fi issue at the hotel he was at. Recording clerk Rix created an agenda based on the items that were sent to her for linking. A couple of items were without back up documents to be linked, so they were not included, and will be addressed at the next meeting. Chairman Mitchell thanked Judi for her work in helping the board be successful.

**Approval of minutes of previous meetings**

a. Russell K. Gross made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 12, 2017 meeting; it was seconded by Roy Najecki and passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Roy Najecki provided an updated treasurer's report which reflected all expenses up until the end of September. Janine Pitocco made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented; it was seconded by David Piccirillo and passed unanimously.

**Approval of Bills:**

a. Russell K. Gross made a motion to pay the recording clerk Judi Rix \$150.00 for the September 12, 2017 meeting minutes and hyperlinking of agendas; Janine Pitocco seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

b. Russell K. Gross made a motion to pay John J. Bevilacqua \$1,000 for monthly services for September 2017; Roy Najecki seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Roy Najecki to move the Executive Session to the next item on the agenda to accommodate the only guest present; it was seconded by Janine Pitocco and passed by all.

**Executive Session:** A motion was made by Russell K. Gross to convene to Executive Session; it was seconded by David Piccirillo and it passed unanimously. Roy Najecki made a motion to leave Executive Session, Janine Pitocco seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **Executive Session Motions:**

### **Title 42 Section 42-46-5 (5) Purposes for which meeting may be closed to the public**

Any discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public.

a) Acquisition of land and/or conservation easement: Roy Najecki made a motion to authorize Chairman Mitchell to submit an Open Space Grant application to assist with the possible purchase and conservation of the Huntinghouse Land, Janine Pitocco seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4-1. (Aye: Mitchell, Najecki, Piccirillo, Pitocco; Nay: Gross)

## **Old Business**

a. 2017-2018 Budget: Trustee Roy Najecki presented the board members with an updated spreadsheet that reflected the changes/updates to the budget items that were requested at the last meeting. Chairman Mitchell made a motion to approve and accept the proposed 2017-2018 budget as presented at tonight's meeting; Russell K. Gross seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

b. Status of Sign Installation on GLT Properties: Chairman Mitchell spoke with Jim Gervasio of Gervasio Construction Company regarding installing the signs that have been purchased, and will continue to discuss the possibility of them finishing the projects. The company is already doing work for the GLT by installing gates at Steere Hill. Stephen St. Pierre has reached out to four other companies for quotes, and none of them have gotten back to him.

c. 2017-2018 Hunting Registrations Update: The Town Clerk's office has been handling the remaining registrations, but still has muzzle-loading permits available as of today. There have been fewer requests this year.

d. Bronze Plaque and date of dedication ceremony: The plaque is ready for pick up at Emblem & Badge in Johnston, and Chairman Mitchell will meet DPW at the site to determine where it will be put. The Heditsian family requested that the date of the ceremony be at 11am on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> instead of this upcoming weekend.

e. Trail signs: The Eagle Scout project is moving along nicely, and Stephen St. Pierre and Steven Mitchell received a picture of one of the signs. The board was happy with how the sign turned out, beautiful work. Chairman Mitchell would like to recognize the Eagle Scouts that have done projects for the board over the past two years; maybe next month.

## **New Business**

a. Dahlquist Inspection: Chairman Mitchell conducted an inspection of the property and submitted the required report, making note of the new chicken coop and the updated condition of the barn Mr. Dahlquist built within the easement.

b. DEM Trail Grant Application: Steven Mitchell noted that the grant application has already been submitted to Gregg Cassidy, and Roy Najecki believes that the board will be notified of the decision at the end of November.

c. Rupert Friday email – Wanted: Workshops and Walks: An email informing members they are planning the 2018 Land & Water Conservation Summit which will be held Saturday, March 10, 2018, and asking what workshops would be helpful. They are also asking for local Land Trusts to sponsor walks on the day after Thanksgiving.

## **Correspondence:**

a. Trust Monthly Claims Report: Chairman Mitchell received two reports from the Trust summarizing any claims the GLT may have, and as of this month there are none.

b. RI Land Trust e-news: Chairman Mitchell received an email outlining future conferences, workshops and various events for the board members to review. If any of the trustees are interested in attending something, they just need to let the Chairman know and the board will pay for them to attend.

**Trail Inspection Reports:** Steven St. Pierre informed Chairman Mitchell that all trails at Steere Hill have been inspected, and that will be it for the remainder of the year. Roy Najecki indicated that he still has to finish the inspections at Sprague Farm, but they should be completed prior to the next meeting.

**Monthly GLT Activities / Reports:** Roy Najecki held a walk at Steere Hill for Land Trust Days on 9/28 which had approximately 8 people in attendance. One of those people was URI Horticulturist Professor Brian Maynard, and he was very helpful in pointing out some items that should be preserved and not cut down.

**Open Forum:** Russell K. Gross wanted to suggest asking Gervasio Construction about possibly installing the gate at Hawkins Dam as well.

There being no further business before the Land Trust, Janine Pitocco made a motion to adjourn at 8:01p.m. The motion was seconded by Roy Najecki and it passed unanimously.

APPROVED AT NOVEMBER 14, 2017 MEETING.