

GLOCESTER LAND TRUST
REGULAR MEETING
September 12, 2017

The regular meeting of the Gloucester Land Trust took place on September 12, 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: Troop 44 Scouts Joseph Milia and Ethan Provencial (Attending for purposes of Communications Merit Badge)

Pledge of Allegiance

Open Forum Agenda Items Only: No one present wished to speak at this time

Approval of minutes of previous meetings

a. Russell K. Gross made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 22, 2017 meeting; it was seconded by Janine Pitocco and passed unanimously with David Piccirillo abstaining due to his absence at that meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Roy Najecki provided an updated treasurer's report which only reflected the 55 cents in interest in August. Russell K. Gross made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented; it was seconded by Janine Pitocco and passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills:

- a. Janine Pitocco made a motion to pay the recording clerk Judi Rix \$178.00 for the August 22, 2017 meeting minutes and hyperlinking of agendas; Russell K. Gross seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- b. Janine Pitocco made a motion to pay John J. Bevilacqua \$1,000 for monthly services for August 2017; Russell K. Gross seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Old Business

- a. Welcome to new trustee: David Piccirillo is a lifelong Gloucester resident, graduate of Ponaganset High School, retired member of Gloucester Police Department and is passionate about environmental issues.
- b. Status of Sign Installation on GLT Properties: BORI Graphix will conduct site visits to provide an estimate on installing the property signs the board has purchased. (Phillips, Sprague and Hawkins) The projects are moving along.
- c. 2017-2018 Hunting Registrations Update: The board provided three registration nights, had less than 10 people on each of the first two nights, and had 15 registrants this evening. The Town Clerk's office will handle any remaining registrations.

- d. Hawkins Dam Report progress report: Steven Mitchell and Stephen St. Pierre have an appointment on September 21st at 8:30am to meet with a DEM head engineer to get a suggested timeline for the Hawkins Dam project, and get a list of recommended engineering companies with at least 10 years' experience with dam restoration.
- e. Bronze Plaque and date of dedication ceremony: Gary Trembl of the GPW located a beautiful piece of granite to mount the plaque in honor of Tateos M. Heditsian on. Emblem & Badge in Johnston is working with a photographer and creating a prototype to show the Heditsian family before the board orders it. Chairman Mitchell would like to have everything done, and possibly have the ceremony the morning of Saturday, October 14, 2017.
- f. Status of Open Space Bond issue: Attorney Bevilacqua reviewed the information he received from Diane Brennan in the Finance Office. It was determined that the \$67,376.00 that remains can be used at Hawkins Pond, and Chairman Mitchell believes it will help with the hiring of a civil engineer significantly. The bond money is specifically for this type of project.

New Business

- a. 2017-2018 budget development and adoption: Roy Najecki received the projected real estate transfer amount from the Finance Office earlier in the day, and it appears the board will be receiving \$74,735.00. Mr. Najecki is also anticipating a grant award in the amount of \$3,000.00, but since grants are not certain, he entered that as a soft amount. Overall many of the budget lines remained the same as last year, but the board felt they needed to increase both the line for legal services and for the recording clerk fees due to the possibility of additional meetings and more work due to the dam restoration project the board will be working on. The operational budget came out to \$43,950.00. All changes made tonight will be made on the spreadsheet and brought back to the board at the October meeting for final adoption.

Correspondence:

- a. RFP Local Recreation Grant Information from Land Trust Council: Chairman Mitchell received an email from Rupert Friday regarding recreation grants. The board is eligible to apply, but the funds are very restrictive. Attorney Bevilacqua will look into it further and in time for the submission deadline of Friday, December 1st.

Trail Inspection Reports: Steven St. Pierre and Russell K. Gross cleaned up a tree that had fallen near the fence at Steere Hill.

Monthly GLT Activities / Reports: There were no activities during the past month to report on.

Open Forum: No one present wished to speak.

Executive Session: There was no Executive Session at this meeting.

There being no further business before the Land Trust, Russell K. Gross made a motion to adjourn at 8:15p.m. The motion was seconded by Janine Pitocco and it passed unanimously.

APPROVED AT OCTOBER 10, 2017 MEETING.