

GLOCESTER LAND TRUST
REGULAR MEETING
June 11, 2014

The regular meeting of the Gloucester Land Trust took place on June 11, 2014 at the Gloucester Town Hall. Vice Chair Steven St. Pierre called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members in attendance: Russell K. Gross, Stephen Mitchell, Roy Najecki, Steven St. Pierre, George Charette, and Legal counsel John J. Bevilacqua, Jr.

Members Absent: Matt Clegg and Missing one person to be appointed by Town Council

Minutes: Judi Rix

Guests: Jessie Gross

Pledge of Allegiance

Open Forum Agenda Items Only

No one present wished to speak at this time.

Approval of minutes of previous meetings

- a. Roy Najecki made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 14, 2014 meeting; it was seconded by Russell K. Gross and it was passed by all with only Stephen Mitchell abstaining due to his absence from the last meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Steven St. Pierre posted financial information he received from Town Hall on the OneDrive. Russell K. Gross made a motion to table the item until Treasurer Roy Najecki has had an opportunity to review it and prepare a report; it was seconded by Roy Najecki and it passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills

- a. Russell K. Gross made a motion to pay the recording clerk Judi Rix \$145 for the May 14, 2014 meeting minutes; George Charette seconded and it passed unanimously.
- b. Russell K. Gross made a motion to pay John Bevilacqua's May 2014 bill for \$2,000; Stephen Mitchell seconded and it passed unanimously.

Old Business

- a. Approval of Land Trust Days Activities: Russell K. Gross made a motion to approve the following events for the Land Trust Days: 8/9/14 Scavenger Hunt and cookout on Steere Hill, 8/24/14 Scavenger Hunt and cookout at Sprague Farm and 9/13 a Dog Walk/Poker Run at Steere Hill; Stephen Mitchell seconded and it passed unanimously. George Charette wanted to mention that a new state law requires that food servers be registered with the state if food is being served to the general public. John Bevilacqua will have to check to see if the law is applicable if the public is being charged for the food, not if it is being given away for free.
- b. RI DEM 2014 Great Outdoors Pursuit: The event will be held at Pulaski Park on June 22nd from 11am-3pm. The DEM is looking for the GLT to set up a booth/table at Pulaski Park about their properties and also provide a couple of tours for the scavenger hunt participants on GLT properties. Roy Najecki will take care of the table at Pulaski and Steven St. St. Pierre and Stephen Mitchell will help with the tours. Russell K. Gross made a motion to approve the GLT's participation in RI DEM's 2014 Great Outdoors Pursuit; Roy Najecki seconded and it passed unanimously.

New Business

- a. Election of Chair: Russell K. Gross made a motion to nominate Stephen Mitchell for the Chairman's position left vacant by Mark Karmozyn's resignation; George Charette seconded and it passed unanimously. Mr. Mitchell would like to put systems in place to help formulate short and long term goals. What resources are needed and what constitutes success needs to be established. Mr. Mitchell also suggested that the second meeting of every month be workshops so that the board can bring closure to the budget, finish outstanding projects and do some strategic planning. Chairman Mitchell wants to work as a team and values every members input and contribution.
- b. National Grid Tree Mitigation Program: National Grid has 19 trees they would like taken down on the Scottston property, and they have hired a man by the name of Luke Fiske to complete this job. Mr. Fiske works for a tree company and is licensed and insured. Russell K. Gross will meet with him to see what trees are in question and will give him a call tomorrow to set up the meeting. Steven St. Pierre made a motion to allow Russell K. Gross to authorize the tree removal; George Charette seconded and it passed unanimously.
- c. RI Black Bear Monitoring Program: GLT has been contacted by a research associate from URI working with DEM who would like to set up a trail camera. The piece of property she would like to set up on is not GLT property and Mr. Mitchell will advise her that she needs to contact the property owner.
- d. Set workshop dates: The next meeting on June 25, 2014 will be a workshop to discuss strategic and action planning for short and long term goals and will begin at 7pm.
- e. Establish a date to invite volunteers to GLT: Russell K. Gross suggested inviting the GLT volunteers to the second July meeting to discuss upcoming projects and seek their assistance.
- f. Set a date to report to Gloucester Town Council: Stephen Mitchell would like to plan for the September meeting of the Town Council to report on the future activities of GLT for remainder of calendar year as well as projection of activities through 2015. This should give the board some time to chip away at outstanding projects before reporting.
- g. Portable toilet at Sprague Farm: Roy Najecki would like to put a portable toilet at Sprague Farm, similar to the one currently at Steere Hill. Especially with the planned events schedule for that location, he feels it would be beneficial. Roy Najecki made a motion for a portable toilet to be placed at Sprague Farm; Russell K. Gross seconded and it passed unanimously.
- h. Use of GLT Tractor by Gloucester Conservation Commission: Russell K. Gross would like to meet with Roy Najecki prior to allowing the tractor to be loaned out. Mr. Gross wants to show him a few things about the tractor that should make the mowing easier since Mr. Najecki will be doing the mowing for the Conservation Commission. Steven St. Pierre made a motion to allow the Gloucester Conservation Commission to borrow the GLT tractor; Russell K. Gross seconded and it passed unanimously.

Correspondence

- a. SDRA Annual Meeting: GLT received information regarding topics discussed at the meeting: boat ramp inspection, water quality testing program, Sand Dam day, election of officers, and milfoil mat program.

- b. Secretary of State Open Meeting Summit: Judi Rix forwarded an email she received from the S.O.S.'s office regarding the upcoming Open Meeting Summit on August 1, 2014 9am-12:30pm at Roger Williams Law School. John Bevilacqua believes it is an important meeting that the trustees should try to attend. Stephen Mitchell and Russell K. Gross will attend and Mr. Mitchell will respond to the S.O.S. and provide the names of the trustees attending.
- c. Land Trust Rally 2014: This will be held September 18-20 at the Providence Convention Center. The cost to attend is \$490/person, but with the discount provided it will cost \$255/person to attend. Roy Najecki is planning on attending, so Mr. Mitchell will place it on the agenda for the July meeting.

Open Forum

Steven St. Pierre would like to request an item be placed on the July meeting agenda. The GLT might be losing SkyDrive and Office 365, so he is currently looking into an alternative for the board.

Stephen Mitchell will place the Land Trust Rally on the July meeting agenda, and would eventually like to make agenda requests a standing item for the end of each open session of the meetings. Mr. Mitchell would like anyone that requests an agenda item to provide a brief narrative on the item to go along with the request.

Executive Session:

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.

There was no Executive Session held at this meeting.

There being no further business before the Land Trust, Russell K. Gross made a motion to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. The motion was seconded by Steven St. Pierre and it passed unanimously.

APPROVED AT JULY 09, 2014 MEETING.