

GLOCESTER LAND TRUST
REGULAR MEETING
February 26, 2014

The regular meeting of the Gloucester Land Trust took place on February 26, 2014 at the Gloucester Town Hall. Chair Mark Karmozyn called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

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

Minutes: Judi Rix

Guests: Jeanne O'Donnell Smith Haroian and Maureen O'Donnell DelFarno

Pledge of Allegiance

Roy Najecki motioned to move a portion of the Executive Session to the top of the agenda to accommodate the guests in attendance; Russell K. Gross seconded and it passed unanimously.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Russell K. Gross to convene to Executive Session; it was seconded by Roy Najecki and passed by all. Stephen Mitchell made a motion to leave Executive Session, George Charette seconded the motion and it passed by all.

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.

1. Land Acquisition: George Charette made a motion to put to a vote if the board would like to pursue the P1 parcel for purchase; Steven St. Pierre seconded. There was a tie vote so the motion failed. The Gloucester Land Trust will not pursue this property and the votes were recorded as follows:
Voting Yes to pursue: Steven St. Pierre, Mark Karmozyn and Roy Najecki; voting not to pursue: Stephen Mitchell, George Charette and Russell K. Gross.
2. Litigation: None

Chair Mark Karmozyn disclosed the vote to those in attendance.

Open Forum Agenda Items Only

No one present wished to speak.

Approval of minutes of previous meetings

- a. Stephen Mitchell made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2014 meeting; it was seconded by George Charette and passed unanimously.
- b. Due to three members abstaining from the vote due to their absence at the 2/12/14 meeting a motion to accept the minutes of the February 12, 2014 meeting could not be made. The minutes of record show who was in attendance and that there were not enough trustees present to have a quorum so the meeting was cancelled.

Approval of Bills

Stephen Mitchell made a motion to pay all of the bills listed below; George Charette seconded and it was passed unanimously.

- a. Pay the recording clerk Judi Rix \$145 for the January 22, 2014 meeting minutes.
- b. Pay the recording clerk Judi Rix \$145 for the February 12, 2014 meeting minutes.
- c. RI Land & Water Conservation Summit invoices submitted by Mark Karmozyn (\$40) and Steven St. Pierre (\$40), for a total of \$80.00.
- d. Pay John Bevilacqua's January 2014 bill for \$2,000.
- e. Pay the invoice of \$1,389.90 for the new filing cabinets.
- f. Pay the office supplies bill for \$57.45.

Old Business

- a. Conflict of Interest Affirmation: The approved document was presented to each trustee for their signature. Each person signed it and returned the form to Mark Karmozyn. This will need to be done every year.
- b. Code of Ethics Affirmation: The approved document was presented to each trustee for their signature. Each person signed it and returned the form to Mark Karmozyn. This will need to be done every year.
- c. GLT Volunteers: Steven St. Pierre made a motion to accept Matt Clegg as a new volunteer because all of his required paperwork is complete; Russell K. Gross seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. George Charette would like to have a volunteer meeting so he can get to know the group.
- d. Property maintenance:
 1. Steere Hill & Sprague Maps: Roy Najecki put up the new mailbox and map at Sprague.
- e. Equipment Maintenance:
 1. Tractor Service and Repair: Russell K. Gross hasn't looked at the tractor yet to determine what is wrong. Mr. Gross would like to get the tractor to his garage to perform an oil change on it since he isn't sure when the last time that was done.
 2. Equipment Service and Repair: Roy Najecki took care of most of this and thinks it will be easy for the board to do the necessary maintenance on their own.
 3. GLT truck purchase: George Charette asked that this be placed on the agenda. If the GLT is an independent board, why are they dependent on the DPW for a truck, or have to use their own vehicles? Stephen Mitchell suggested looking at the state bid list to see what they have available. Russell K. Gross also suggested that the board look into getting a grant to help fund this purchase since the GLT does not have the available funds to buy a truck.
- f. GLT Membership: Steven St. Pierre and Mark Karmozyn would like to move this forward. Mr. Karmozyn spoke to the Finance Office about setting up a PayPal account and they said that it would be no problem to accomplish; the board would just need to establish a bank account for the funds to be deposited into. Mr. St. Pierre believes there are people that may want to support the Land Trust, but not necessarily have time to volunteer. Russell K. Gross motioned to allow Steven St. Pierre to move forward with making GLT Membership a viable option; George Charette seconded and it passed unanimously.
- g. RI DEM Trail Grant: The GLT is not going to pursue this right now. The board already has two grants open that they haven't been able to act upon yet; one for Steere Hill and the other for Joe Sweet Road. Mark Karmozyn would like to see the board work on what they already have available before they ask for more, and the other trustees agreed with this.
- h. GLT Annual Report: The handwritten version Judi Rix completed is what the board will use for their annual report. Roy Najecki believes he has a version of this report that Ms. Rix could alter and

type directly into instead of having a handwritten copy. Judi Rix will email Mr. Najecki for the document, and then submit to the Town Clerk's office.

New Business

- a. GLT Enforcement Policy: Need to establish a policy in order to be able to hold the trustees accountable for their actions. This will allow for internal policing of the board and provides a mechanism to enforce the policies that are currently in place. Due process needs to be documented. Stephen Mitchell and George Charette will work on this, and possibly enlist the help of John Bevilacqua.
- b. Workshop Topics: Steven St. Pierre suggested having some workshops and compiled a possible list of topics. George Charette would like to see one of the first workshops be on the budget. Mark Karmozyn will place it on the agenda for the next meeting.
- c. GLT greatest accomplishments for 2013: Rupert Friday of the RI Land Trust had requested this and Mark Karmozyn provided him with a list to select from. Stephen Mitchell requested that going forward the trustees receive a memo advising them when anything is sent out on behalf of the entire board.
- d. Interpretive / educational trail signs: Roy Najecki had requested this item. Mr. Najecki would like to put up informational/historical signs on the trails to provide more information to the hikers. (History of name on trail, types of trees, etc.) The trustees like the idea and want to make sure that if it is done on other trails as well, that it remains consistent. Also, not in favor of nailing things into trees, so the signs will need to be mounted on posts. Stephen Mitchell motioned to allow Roy Najecki to move forward with the educational trail signs as long as they are on posts; George Charette seconded and it passed unanimously. Mr. Najecki will provide an update at the next meeting.

Correspondence

1. Mark Karmozyn received a letter of violation regarding Sand Dam about vegetation growing on the dam; the Sand Dam Association will handle this violation.
2. Mark Karmozyn got a phone call from the man that lives across the street from Steere Hill. He is going to be having a party at his house and wanted permission to use the Steere Hill parking lot for his party guests. Mr. Karmozyn denied his request.
3. Mark Karmozyn also received a phone call from a man about a mountain lion program that he offers. Mr. Karmozyn was not available when he called, so the man left a message saying he would call again.

Open Forum

Stephen Mitchell would like to request an agenda item for the next meeting. Mr. Mitchell would like the financial report put on as a topic so that he can request the new town treasurer's attendance at a GLT meeting.

Executive Session: Steven St. Pierre made a motion to enter Executive Session for a second time, Stephen Mitchell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Steven St. Pierre made a motion to leave Executive Session, George Charette 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

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3. Land Acquisition and / or Conservation Easement: None
4. Litigation: None

5. Personnel: None

There were no votes taken during this portion of the Executive Session and there were no guests present to disclose to.

There being no further business before the Land Trust, Steven St. Pierre made a motion to adjourn at 9:31 p.m. The motion was seconded by George Charette and it passed unanimously.

APPROVED AT MARCH 12, 2014 MEETING.