

GLOCESTER LAND TRUST
REGULAR MEETING
October 08, 2019

The regular meeting of the Gloucester Land Trust took place on October 08, 2019 at the Gloucester Town Hall. Chair Stephen Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members in attendance: Stephen Mitchell, Steven St. Pierre, Roy Najecki, David Piccirillo, Janine Pitocco and Legal Counsel John J. Bevilacqua, Sr.

Members Absent: Gene Cavaliere and one member to be appointed by Town Council

Minutes: Judi Rix

Guests:

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence in honor of Trustee Russell K. Gross who passed away on September 30, 2019.

Open Forum Agenda Items Only: No one present wished to speak.

Approval of minutes of previous meetings (discussions and /or action):

- a. Steven St. Pierre made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 24, 2019 meeting; it was seconded by David Piccirillo and passed unanimously.

GLT Treasurer's Report (discussions and /or action): Treasurer Roy Najecki provided an updated report showing all the expenses for August and September. Steven St. Pierre made a motion to approve the report as presented; it was seconded by Janine Pitocco and passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills (discussions and /or action):

- a. Janine Pitocco made a motion to pay Judi Rix a total of \$175.00 for September 24, 2019 Minutes; it was seconded by Steven St. Pierre and passed unanimously.
- b. Steven St. Pierre made a motion to pay John J. Bevilacqua, Sr. a total of \$1,000.00 for Legal Services for October 2019; it was seconded by Roy Najecki and passed unanimously.

Old Business (discussion and/or action):

Roy Najecki made a motion to combine Old Business items "A" and "D" for discussion; it was seconded by David Piccirillo and passed unanimously.

a. Historical Cemeteries on Land Trust Properties, d. Trail clearing and installation of sign at Steere Hill Recreational Area: Chairman Mitchell is happy to report that Member Najecki has put together a plan and a timeline to get projects completed by the end of the year with the help of the GLT Volunteers. Member Najecki will be notifying the volunteers that he will be coordinating property maintenance projects every Saturday and Sunday for two hours each day (except weekend of 11/16) to work on various trails and clean up the historical cemeteries on the Kwandrans and Garrity Woodland properties. Steven St. Pierre and John Pitocco cleared some trees at Steere Hill last weekend, and Member St. Pierre continues to complete the trail inspections on that property. Chairman Mitchell has been working on getting the new

Approved Minutes

property sign up at Steere Hill. Sean Condon of Northern Landscape Corporation and his crew will take down the tree at Steere Hill that is in the way of getting the new sign up and then will install the property sign for the Land Trust.

b. Hopkins Woodlands Encroachment: Legal Counsel John J. Bevilacqua has completed a letter to the landowner and it is going out on 10/9/19. The Board believes it has been more than patient and given him enough time to take action; he will have seven days to contact Attorney Bevilacqua.

c. Registering Hunters for GLT permits: Chairman Mitchell and Gene Cavaliere gave out 22 permits on Monday, September 30th, approximately 7 were given out on Wednesday, October 2nd and 3 more were given out tonight. Chairman Mitchell has received many phone calls this year about obtaining permits and even issued two permits for exceptions due to disabilities.

New Business (discussions and/or action):

a. Update on tentative workshop Session between Town Council and Land Trust – October 22, 23, 24, 2019: The Town Council offered three dates to the Land Trust for the workshop, and of the dates offered the 22nd worked the best for the Board. Chairman Mitchell will notify the Town Clerk's Office and the Town Council of the date selected.

b. Inspection of Dahlquist Property per NRCS annual requirement: Chairman Mitchell went out to the Dahlquist property, met with Michael Dahlquist and completed the required paperwork. Once the paperwork was submitted, the Chairman found out that the submission deadline was October 1st, so he was told this submission would count for 2020 since that date had already passed.

c. Approval of 2019-2020 GLT Annual Budget: Treasurer Roy Najecki presented the Board with a spreadsheet with a proposed 2019-2020 budget. Steven St. Pierre was questioning if more money should be in the proposed line for the Dam since they know it will cost more than the amount currently listed. Member Najecki said he was unsure of what to put in that line since he did not know where funding was coming from. The Board can use the money in the Open Space Bond line to help pay for Phase 2 of the Hawkins Dam repair planning, and that money should be reimbursed to the Trust if/when a bond gets approved for the project. The estimate of Phase 2 from the engineers is what will be put into the proposed line for the dam.

Another line item that was discussed in detail was for the tractor replacement. There is enough money in the line right now to start looking at replacement tractors, but Member Najecki asked if a newer tractor was even necessary at this time. The existing tractor has very few usage hours on it and is not having any issues that the board is aware of. Originally the Board started saving to buy an additional tractor to do mowing at the properties, but there is no one available to do the mowing even if they have two tractors. Member Najecki will adjust the figures on the report and bring it back to the next meeting for adoption.

Correspondence

a. Highway Department response to request for Steere Hill Parking Lot (09/24/19): Chairman Mitchell had reached out to Gary Trembl of the Gloucester DPW to see if they could help get the Steere Hill sign installed. The sign is assembled and ready to be installed, but unfortunately the DPW is unable to help with the installation. They are working very short staffed since the unexpected passing of one of its employees.

b. Diane Brennan regarding recording secretary compensation (10/01/2019): Chairman Mitchell received a call from Diane Brennan in the Town Finance Office regarding the most recent invoice for the Land trust recording clerk's payment for August. The office noticed that the amount of payment had been significantly increased and wanted to check with the Chair. Chairman Mitchell provided them with the portion of the minutes that showed the Board had approved the increase and she then brought that to the

Approved Minutes

Town Council for approval. The Council approved the increased base rate, after seven years of service, and the invoice was approved for payment.

Trail Inspection and Volunteer Hour(s) Reports: Steven St. Pierre began the inspections at Steere Hill, and they will be completed by the end of October. Roy Najecki will reach out to Gary Trembl of the Gloucester DPW to have the tractor canopy removed and have it brought to the Steere Hill parking area so he can mow at the top of the hill.

Monthly GLT Activities/Reports: Roy Najecki is organizing a walk at Steere Hill for after Thanksgiving.

Open Forum:

Executive Session: There was no executive session held at the meeting this evening.

There being no further business before the Land Trust, Janine Pitocco made a motion to adjourn at 7:52 p.m.; it was seconded by Steven St. Pierre and passed unanimously.

Minutes Approved: November 14, 2019 meeting.