

GLOCESTER LAND TRUST  
REGULAR MEETING  
May 28, 2019

The regular meeting of the Gloucester Land Trust took place on May 28, 2019 at the Gloucester Town Hall. Chair Stephen Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members in attendance: Stephen Mitchell, Roy Najecki, Russell K. Gross, Gene Cavaliere, David Piccirillo, and Legal Counsel John J. Bevilacqua, Sr.

Members Absent: Steven St. Pierre and Janine Pitocco

Minutes: Judi Rix

Guests: Pare Corporation engineers J. Matthew Bellisle and David Matheson

**Pledge of Allegiance**

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

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

- a. Russell K. Gross made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 09, 2019 meeting; it was seconded by Roy Najecki and passed unanimously.

**GLT Treasurer's Report** (discussions and /or action): Treasurer Roy Najecki provided an updated treasurer's report for the rest of the Board to review; there was nothing remarkable from last month. The fiscal year ends in 6weeks and the budget is right on target. Russell K. Gross made a motion to accept the report as presented; it was seconded by David Piccirillo and passed unanimously.

**Approval of Bills** (discussions and /or action):

- a. Russell K. Gross made a motion to pay Judi Rix a total of \$150.00 for April 09, 2019 Minutes; it was seconded by Roy Najecki and passed unanimously.
- b. Gene Cavaliere made a motion to pay John J. Bevilacqua, Sr. a total of \$1,000.00 for Legal Services for April 2019; it was seconded by Russell K. Gross and passed unanimously.
- c. Russell K. Gross made a motion to pay Midfield Technologies a total of \$475.00 for Yearly renewal fee; it was seconded by David Piccirillo and passed unanimously.
- d. Russell K. Gross made a motion to pay Pare Corporation a total of \$15,934.58 for Professional Services from March 30 to April 26, 2019; it was seconded by Roy Najecki and passed unanimously.

**Old Business** (discussion and/or action):

a. Eagle Scout Project Update: Roy Najecki has been in contact with Eagle Scout Donald Rossi. Mr. Rossi was able to get all of the required supplies donated, so the Board will not need to contribute any funds for this project, which is now almost near completion. The sign on the kiosk at the Joe Sweet parking area will read: Dr. William S. Klutz Woodland underneath where it says Sprague Farm Town Forest. Dr. Klutz's daughter donated the abutting land to the Land Trust years ago. The management plan also reflects this name, so the sign will be in agreement with the plan.

b. Status of GLT laptop to Conservation Commission: Roy Najecki stated that the Conservation Commission did receive the laptop, and is very appreciative of the donation from the Land Trust.

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c. Status of Line-Account for Hawkins Dam Spillway Project: This line account has not been established yet, but Mr. Najecki believes it should be established in the next fiscal year's budget. Both Legal Counsel John J. Bevilacqua, Sr. and the Recording Clerk Judi Rix (motion in April minutes) provided the Finance Office with authorization to establish this line account for Hawkins Dam.

d. Interlocal Trust Renewal Exposure Update: Chairman Stephen Mitchell is still waiting on the Trust to respond to his request for more information.

Chairman Mitchell would like to go out of agenda order to finish off some quick business prior to hearing an update from Mr. Bellisle and Mr. Matheson on the Hawkins Dam project. Roy Najecki made a motion to go out of agenda order and move New Business item "A" to after Correspondence; it was seconded by David Piccirillo and passed unanimously.

### **New Business** (discussions and/or action):

b. Seek to arrange workshop with Gloucester Town Council to discuss Hawkins Spillway and Causeway Report: Chairman Mitchell would like to table this item for now and plan for a meeting with the Town Council in September. Roy Najecki made a motion to table this item for now; it was seconded by David Piccirillo and passed unanimously.

c. Seek bids to paint both Hawkins Garage and Clarkville School: Chairman Stephen Mitchell asked the Board what their thoughts were on this topic. Russell K. Gross stated he isn't sure what the fate of the garage should be, and it was mentioned that the chimney at the schoolhouse is what needs immediate attention at that property. Chairman Mitchell, Vice Chairman Steven St. Pierre and Member David Piccirillo will go out to the sites and take a good look at their condition before deciding on how to proceed. This agenda item will come back before the Board after the visits have taken place.

d. 2018 GLT Annual Report submitted to Town Council: Chairman Stephen Mitchell just wanted to keep the Board informed that the report he provided to the trustees for approval, had been officially submitted to the Town Council.

### **Correspondence**

a. Website Update for Agenda and Minutes (05/22/2019): The website was not current with the agendas and minutes, but Vice Chairman St. Pierre took care of that after the town asked why it was not current. Updating that information on the website is now a little more complicated with the Apple products the Board is using, so Mr. St. Pierre had to use a Windows based product to get it up to date. Recording Clerk Judi Rix directed the town to the Secretary of State's website where all items are current to stay in compliance with the state.

b. RI Land Trust Council e-news (05/14/2019): Chairman Mitchell shared the email from the RI Land Trust with the Board members for informational purposes.

c. Cynthia Kwolek CAPS 2019 Pest Survey (04/24/2019): Ms. Kwolek will be surveying 4 sites during the middle of May (Hawkins Pond, Sprague Farm, Scotstoun Town Forest and Steere Hill) and will report back to the Board her findings.

d. Interlocal Trust Membership Update Request (04/19/2019): Chairman Stephen Mitchell received another request to update the Land Trust membership information. Chairman Mitchell had requested a spreadsheet from the Trust providing what information they currently have on file, so he could update it appropriately; he has never received that spreadsheet and has asked for it again.

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### **New Business** (discussions and/or action):

- a. Hawkins Spillway and Causeway Phase II Project Update: Engineers J. Matthew Bellisle and David Matheson were present to provide an update and review their draft report with the Board. Overall, the condition of the dam is good enough for it to be repairable, and should not require replacement. Mr. Bellisle and Mr. Matheson are recommending repairs be completed on the embankments and the spillway, along with armoring sections of the dam. The seepage they were able to find was located low on the dam and need to be addressed to control where the flow of water should go. This should be a fairly easy fix by installing a toe drain and a drainage system similar to a French drain alongside the dam. The borings revealed a two foot deep organic layer at the bottom of the dam, and there appears to be no danger of liquefaction.

The embankment repairs to stabilize the slopes could include: stump, root and vegetation removal, and regrading portions to provide a uniform slope. Considered alternatives for the 500-year or ½ PMF storm events include raising the height of the dam, replacing the primary spillway with a wider spillway section, and/or armoring sections of the dam to allow for controlled overtopping. The engineers believe the primary spillway can be repaired and the crest of the dam needs to be regraded. The peak water surface elevation associated with a 500-year storm is approximately 517 feet, and a foot in addition to that is recommended for a total of 518 feet. The embankments on each side of the current spillway are about 10 inches lower than that, so only minor regrading would be required. Repairs to the primary spillway could include: demolishing/replacing training walls on each side, filling the undermined areas below the concrete weir, repointing the concrete spill face and repairing cracks along the concrete weir and concrete approach.

This project could be broken down into phases, but that may not be the most fiscally responsible approach to take. At the June meeting, the Board members will discuss all of the options provided to them and decide how they wish to proceed. Chairman Mitchell would like to schedule a meeting for himself, Steven St. Pierre and Attorney Bevilacqua prior to the two engineers presenting to the Board again at the August meeting. Once the Board has decided how they would like to proceed, the report will be finalized and presented to the Town Council for a meeting to discuss. Chairman Mitchell reminded the Board members that since this project is still in the discovery/recommendations phase, the members should not be sharing the information contained in it with anyone outside of the Board.

**Trail Inspection and Volunteer Hour(s) Reports:** Nothing to report.

**Monthly GLT Activities/Reports:** Nothing to report.

**Open Forum:** No one present wished to speak.

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

There being no further business before the Land Trust, Russell K. Gross made a motion to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. The motion was seconded by David Piccirillo and it passed unanimously.

**Minutes Approved:** June 11, 2019 Meeting.