

Bonnet Shores Land Trust
Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 23rd, 2022, 7:00 PM
Meeting held in person at the Community Center.

The meeting of the Land Trust was called to order by George Monaghan, Chair, at 7:05 PM.

Those in attendance included Trustee's Mary Flynn, Salvatore Loporchio, Arthur Hardy, Chair George Monaghan, Clerk Lenny Mercier and Council liaison Bill DelGizzo.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the November meeting were approved. Moved by Arthur and seconded by Salvatore. All were in favor.

Old Business:

Nature Trail Update

Neal Colman reported that Lindsay, the Girl Scout, is ready to work on the signage. Bridge work will be done soon. Discussion about a resident that feels that we are encroaching on his property at the beginning of the trail. Neal and I will look further into this. Discussion followed about spending the funds for a survey. Neal mentioned that David Black will go with Neal and check the GPS of the location of the trail in that area.

Land Acquisition Committee

Arthur read a draft of a letter written to be sent to individuals, owning properties that are landlocked, under water and many other reasons for the owners to donate them to the Land Trust. Draft was given to Mary and she will type and get a copy to Trustees for input.

Report on Mapping

Arthur reported on his work along with prepping for Land Acquisition. Much of the map has been updated. A lot of the strips of land owned by the Land Trust have been merged to individual lots. Discussion followed about asking the town to merge any properties that are owned and abutted by the Land Trust. Bill brought up checking with DEM to see recommendations as they purchase properties to protect the Pond.

GPS GIS ESRI

Cost would be some about \$300 each year if we decided to use them. David Black has registered our Land Trust with them as a non-profit, allowing us to use the mapping at a big discount. This would allow for making separate mapping. Discussion about whether to use the towns system of this system. Customizing of maps would be useful.

Watershed Information

Was going to start on May 9th and she is on vacation. We get the bacteria count within a week once it begins. The formal data will not be available for six months. At the recent zoning board meeting the question was if there is any proof that the runoff from Boston Neck Road has affected the condition of the pond. George asked about the retention ponds along the main road. Bill reported that we should send a letter to the Town Manager requesting that the retention ponds along Boston Neck Road to be sure that they are working properly. Mary moved and Arthur seconded to have the Chairman send the letter to the Town requesting an annual inspection of these retention ponds. David Black mentioned that in Massachusetts, towns inspect on an annual basis and that we should request annually.

New Business:

Presentation by David Black on the Watershed Mapping and the District

David discussed his work on a Watershed Management Plan that he has put quite a bit of work into. He went over some recommendations that included getting a handle on the water quality of the pond. It is listed as a swimmable pond which we know it is not. His recommendation would be to have the pond tested biweekly for \$250.00 each time for six months, which would be about \$6,000 a year and DEM may have a grant available to help with this as they are very interested in the Pond. Looking at all the properties that are buildable and not buildable to protect the pond. One big worry is that should an oil truck or other vehicle fall off the Causeway and into the pond the fuel spill could kill the pond. A possible ban on vehicles carrying 50 gallons or more of fuel from crossing the Causeway. This may be difficult but important. Also cutting back on insecticides etc would help as well. There are funds available thru DEM once convinced the importance of the Watershed Plan. Plan has to be presented by the Land Trust to DEM for review. David is willing to attend with the Land Trust. Surely they will have recommendations for other things to be included in the Plan. Would be good to have the Town know that the plan is being presented. Having the town being in agreement would be helpful. Once DEM accepts the plan that would open up Grant possibilities. Mary believes that she has spoken with Mike Deluca about the plan. She will bring him up to date on the plan. Thank you goes to David for all his work on this plan.

Grant at Little Beach

Mary reported that Dr. King had applied for a grant. Questions from FEMA were asked and Dr. King and Mary were answered via a zoom meeting. FEMA was impressed with Dr. King. It was recommended to keep it in the budget.

Public Comments:

Neal Colman reported that at the recent zoning meeting about the Church's project to clear out trees and clearing and increasing the parking. Cost to do the project is now one million plus to clear our 300 trees and build parking.

He recommended that individuals send letters to the Bishop. With churches merging and closing, this project is not important enough.

Carolyn Delao commented that once the Watershed Plan is complete it should be presented to the Council, showing the work being done.

George mentioned that there was a question about who controls the land in the Watershed area. That is CRMC.

Next Meeting

Meetings will be held on Monday, June 29th, 7:00 PM at the community center.

Adjournment: Mary moved and Salvatore seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM, all were in favor.

Len Mercier, Clerk