



JOSHUA'S TRACT CONSERVATION AND HISTORIC TRUST

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

November 9, 2017, ATWOOD FARM, MANSFIELD, CT

Trustees present: Karen Zimmer, Michael Curtis, Ann Dunnack, Warren Church, Marilyn Schreiber, Gail Bruhn, Doug Hughes, Terry Wakeman, Peter Andersen, Paul Pribula, Carl Lindquist, Dave Perry, Maggie Ferron

Absent: Betsy Paterson, Nancy Silander, Angelika Hansen.

Also present: Michael Hveem, Executive Director; Jim Russel, guest speaker

Karen Zimmer called the meeting to order at 6:57 PM. Introductions made.

Jim Russel gave an informative presentation on JT's present insurance coverage. He has secured a good deal through Conserve-a-Nation, located in Virginia. Premiums have not gone up in three years; JT has not made a claim on these policies. It may make sense at some point to look into possible medical coverage for volunteers injured while carrying out work on JT properties. Noted that we do not lend chainsaws or allow non-JT affiliated volunteers (e.g., college students) to use RoundUp.

Minutes of the 9/14/2017 meeting approved: with three abstentions (Michael Curtis, Peter Andersen, and Carl Lindquist).

Finance and Investment data presented by Gail Bruhn. Noted that membership dues are "looking good" and cash contributions are down somewhat. There is a new investment liaison with whom Gail is pleased, brokerage account also in good shape.

Motion made by Gail Bruhn: *Resolved: To adopt the draft Joshua's Trust Procurement Policy to replace the Joshua's Trust Bid Policy (adptd 5/2014).* Seconded by Michael Curtis, motion carried with none opposed. Discussion of the various levels of comparison and approval needed for purchases; purpose of new policy to allow greater flexibility and establish controls. In case of an emergency, persons may deviate from policy.

Development discussed by Dave Parry. Appeal letter is in process, will be mailed this month first class; Looking into contacting individuals who have left gifts to JT in their wills; will be discussing the Community Organization sponsorship program aimed at businesses to involve them in giving to JT and allowing sponsorship.

Stewardship discussed by Ann Dunnack, all info in report included with meeting packet. **Motion** by Ann Dunnack: *Resolved: That the Executive Director is authorized and directed to file an application on forms prescribed by the Department for Economic and Community Development for financial assistance in accordance with the provisions of public act 03-06 of the Conn. General Assembly, in an amount not to*

exceed \$10,000, and upon approval of said request to enter into and execute a funding agreement with the state for such financial assistance to this organization for the Gurleyville Gristmill Condition Assessment and Report. Motion seconded by Dave Perry, motion carried with none opposed. Issue is that JT may have taken steps outside of the prescribed sequence that disqualify it from eligibility for said grant, will have to see. Would reimburse for some expenses associated with assessing structural problems with GGM.

Nominations and Governance discussed by Doug Hughes (in absence of Betsy Paterson). Doug Hughes made **Motion:** *to appoint Rob Beach to fill a partial-term vacancy for a term ending in 2018, starting immediately.* Ann Dunnack seconded, motion carried with none opposed. Doug Hughes also made a **Motion:** *to include current trustees Terry Wakeman and Michael Curtis to [JT's] slate of candidates at the 2018 Annual Meeting in the Spring, with first terms to end in Spring of 2020.* Dave Parry seconded, motion carried with none opposed.

Doug Hughes also made **Motion:** *to accept resignation of Betsy Paterson from the Vice President position.* She will remain on the committees she currently sits on as a Trustee. Seconded by Gail Bruhn, motion carried with none opposed.

Doug Hughes made **Motion:** *to accept nomination of Paul Pribula as Vice President to fill term of Betsy Paterson.* Ann Dunnack seconded motion, motion carried with none opposed.

Acquisitions discussed by Warren Church. See attachment in packet for meeting. Some discussion as to whether properties can be acquired without the final results of the Strategic Land Conservation Planning Committee.

Executive Director report- Michael Hveem noted that a large bequest has been made by a person previously unknown to the Trust, possibly connected by means of his attorney who drafted estate planning document. Jennifer Kaufman (Town of Mansfield's environmental planner and inland wetlands agent) will attend the January meeting to discuss ways to collaborate; the Last Green Valley is also interested in closer ties.

Strategic Plan is done with goal setting and moving along.

The Strategic Land Conservation Plan was discussed by Paul Pribula who shared a presentation. He asked that all Trustees please read at least the executive summary of the document he sent out from Woodlands and Wildlands. Outreach to towns needs some planning to ensure a uniform message.

Karen Zimmer adjourned meeting at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Ferron

APPROVED 2018-01-11 with Correction: the Trust will attend the meeting in January in Mansfield called by Jennifer Kaufman (Town of Mansfield's environmental planner and inland wetlands agent)