



East Greenwich Municipal Land Trust

Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 6:30 PM

IN-PERSON MEETING ONLY

**Town Council Committee Room, 125 Main Street, East Greenwich
RI 02818**

East Greenwich Municipal Land Trust Detailed Notes - DRAFT MINUTES

Date: Feb 15, 2023

Attendance:

Members:

- Derek Steinbrenner
- Amity Dubell
- Carla Swanson
- Kevin Dawson
- Kevin Guerette

EG Town Staff: not present

Guests:

- Chris Riley, EG resident, potential EGMLT member

Meeting called to order.

Minutes from 1/15 meeting approved

EGMLT administration/organization

Discuss role of EGMLT. Decision made to purchase Pine property without notice or consultation with the EGMLT. Impact fees communicated previously as earmarked for Clark property trail design and construction were used to purchase Pine property. There is no impact fee balance remaining at this time for use on Tanner Clark trails or other Land Trust projects.

Google drive/site: Carla will share google site with members - contains docs, maps, etc.

Web presence: Town website or separate "friends of EGMLT" Facebook site?

Decision: Friends of the EGMLT facebook page: Amity

Town charter. Were drafted updates, developed with former staff, ever approved?

Role of town staff: town will continue to staff our meetings, but not take minutes.

Friends of the Land Trust Facebook page is OK

Town's new GIS system - Clark property shows up
Clark property Audubon owns easement

Voting on EGMLT positions, per Town charter, all in favor of:

- Chair: Derek
- Vice-Chair: Amity
- Secretary: Carla

Budget

Derek & Amity met with Andy Wade and Al Ranaldi. Received clarification, no impact fee balance remains, can't do phase 1 trails in 2023. Also, cannot be added to Parks Department budget as that date has passed. Their advice: EGMLT can approach Town Council with a request for capital expenditure budget.

Properties

- **Boesch Farm:** Lease extended for a year, lease renewal uncertain.
- **Hunt River:** Parking issues
- **Clark:** Derek is meeting with the STEAM museum, Randy Snow, to talk about easement to allow parking for Clark property. For Clark we need public meetings on proposed design, then enlist Parks/DPW to do the labor, pay firm to complete trail specs and consult on buildout.
- **Pine property:** Is this property a priority?

Plan: prep-work 2023 lead up to Clark property trails ...with goal to make an ask for the trail design

Property Improvements

Propose: Redesign Trail kiosks at all properties. Trailhead sign with maps and QR code

Discuss: Parks Department has to-date not prioritized trail maintenance but has expressed support for working with us to visit the sites and create a maintenance plan.

Propose: each land trust member takes a trail and takes pics/writes a summary of the property.

Subcommittee: Amity, Derek, Carla

Carla will draft template - timeline - visits completed before next meeting March 8th

Assignments - Phase 1 property assessment

- Bleachery: Amity
- Boesch: Carla
- Laurel/Fry/Frenchtown: Kevin D
- Hunt River: Derek
- Folger's Woods: Kevin G

Template for phase 1 property assessment

- Trash/cleanup needed?
- Parking
- Trail condition
- Trail markings
- Entry Signage
- Access
- Use notes
- Natural features
- Neighbors
- Natural features
- Human-made features

Parks Department, Andy wants to organize trail clean ups

Budget request: Derek and Amity will work on it and go before Town Council and ask for capital expenditure of 10k

RI Energy update: RI Energy upgrading, opportunity to collect impact fees. Upgrading all the lines. Passes through Hunt River Preserve and Fry Brook Recreation Area...Derek went to public comment. Made comment. EGMLT wants to know impact on LT property; their environmental rep. said minimal disturbance, limited restriction to access.

Future agenda items:

- EGMLT what is our role/charter update?
- Project coming up RI Energy upgrading, opportunity to collect impact fees
- Boesch farm: Carla requested livestock management & grazing plan from tenant with aim to ensure long-term ecosystem health

Invite RI energy to our March 8th - Derek will reach out - Rep from RI Energy Facility Siting board meeting - advocate for impact/concession

Meeting schedule: March 8, April 26, May 10

Motion to adjourn

Meeting adjourned.