Tiverton Open Space Commission
Minutes of April 19, 2010 meeting
Essex Library, Highland Road

Present: Ginger Lacy (co-chair), Brian Janes (co-chair), Phil Schuyler, Dick Bixby, Gayle Lawrence, Susan Anderson, Garry Plunkett. Guests: Bob Lieberman, Ronnie (?) & Herb Sawin, all residents of High Hill Road.

The meeting was called to order by Lacy at 7:07 PM.
As guests were present regarding a specific agenda item, the commission voted to take item III, C. "High Hill Update" before conducting any other business. Lacy reviewed letter that Town Administrator had sent to the Sawins regarding their earlier inquiry, subsequent to our last meeting when TOSC suggested such letter. TOSC members agreed that this matter was now closed. Guests departed.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Review of the March minutes was postponed until next meeting.
- The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented. It was noted that the Treasurer had not yet paid the RIDEM annual repayment as requested.
- Plunkett collected volunteer hours for log
- The spring Weetamoo Woods walks for Tiverton schoolchildren will be commencing soon.
- Anderson received thanks from DAR for her presentation on William Barton last month.
- Lawrence reported on Tiverton Clean-up Week activities—a big success thanks to the many volunteers.
- AMC will be sponsoring a walk in Weetamoo Woods on May 7th.
- Lacy and Plunkett explained they will attend May meeting of the Tiverton Land Trust (TLT) to discuss options for stewardship accounts. TOSC voted unanimously to support exploration of options including amendment of existing Town administered accounts to include TLT.

TRAILS & HABITAT

Ft. Barton:

- Schuyler reported that Representative Jay Edwards had submitted a request for funding towards a new flagpole but he required a letter of support to submit with the request. Lacy to draft and sign.
- Viking Stone: Most recent inspection shows that discharge hose is no longer in place and no water was being pumped onto Ft. Barton land at that time. Significant erosion was noted from previous pumping.
- April Lane Right of Way (ROW): Plunkett reported that the Tiverton Rod & Gun Club contacted him for suggestions for a community service project. They agreed to provide labor and some equipment to improve the ROW access from April Lane to Ft. Barton Woods. Plunkett met with abutting owner and tenant and elicited agreement for the work. Reported that there was a need for approximately $500 for materials and equipment to complete the project. TOSC unanimously approved expenditure of up to $500 for the project to be taken from the Ft. Barton account.
- Flood Damage: Strategies for repairing the damaged bridge were discussed. Concluded that work would need to be delayed until April Lane ROW access was improved and drier conditions prevail.

Weetamoo Woods:

- Plunkett reported that a large tree fall from recent storms, near the Cook cellar hole, required professional assistance. However, Josh Lebreux had volunteered to remove it in return for the cordwood while he was doing the Eight Rod Way mowing and clearing along the perimeter of the Babcock field approved at the March meeting. All that work has been completed for $710
- Weetamoo Parking Area: No action on the Small Trails Grant.

EDUCATION & GRANTS

- The Birds of the Sakonnet lecture is scheduled for April 25th 2PM at the Meeting House at Four Corners. Lacy distributed advertising for posting and revealed the poster that will be available for sale to resounding approval from the members present. Priced at $10 each, proceeds will go to the Pocasset Stewardship Accnt.

PROPERTIES REVIEW

- No discussion

Meeting Adjourned at 9:02 PM. The next meeting will be Monday, May 17, 2010 at Town Hall. NOTE LOCATION CHANGE DUE TO LIBRARY FLOODING.
Submitted by Brian Janes