MINUTES OF THE NATURAL LANDS TRUST MEETING June 14, 2013 12:00 PM

Delaware River Port Authority, One Port Center Camden, New Jersey

Chairman Catania called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM and roll was taken. A quorum of trustees was present. At least one of the trustees was a state governmental representative.

The Open Public Meetings Act notice was read as follows: Notice of the date, time, location and agenda, to the extent known, was forwarded to three newspapers of general circulation, and provided to the Secretary of State in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. It was also noted that such notice was provided on the Trust's website in compliance with the Act requiring State, regional, and local authorities, boards, and commissions to establish a website providing specific information in order to facilitate transparency in government.

In attendance were:

Michael Catania, Chairperson
James Hall, Vice Chairperson
Emile DeVito, Trustee
Adrienne Kreipke, representative for the
State Treasurer
Steve Eisenhauer, Trustee

Larry Torok, DEP Trustee
Judeth Yeany, DEP Trustee
Maurice Griffin, DAG, Trust Counsel
Robert J. Cartica, Executive Director
Martin Rapp, Trust Staff
Cari Wild, Trust Staff

Absent were:

Ed Mulvan, alternate for Rich Boornazian, representative for the DEP Commissioner Theresa Lettman, Trustee/Secretary- Treasurer Thomas Gilmore, Trustee State House Commission representative (not appointed)

General Public Comment: None

Financial Report: Mr. Cartica outlined the Financial Statements for the quarter ending March 31, 2013. Ms. Kreipke motioned to approve the Financial Statements. Mr. Hall seconded the motion and, by a vote of 7 to 0, the Financial Statements were approved.

The **February 22, 2013 minutes** were reviewed. Mr. Hall motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. DeVito seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by a vote of 6 to 0 with Ms. Kreipke abstaining.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Catania provided the Board with a report on the status of activities at **Petty's Island Preserve in Pennsauken Township, Camden County**. The Trust has received a draft report from Lammey and Giorgio, a consultant firm under term contract with the NJDEP, to conduct

the feasibility study. The Trust expects to receive a final report from Lammey and Giorgio in the very near future after which the Trust will conduct another stakeholder meeting. The Trust is developing an RFP for the services of an environmental services consultant with expertise in ecology and toxicology to provide a conceptual remediation and restoration approach to enable some of the former oil tank impoundments on Petty's Island to be used as habitat for plant and animal species. The Trust is also developing an RFP for the design, fabrication and installation of 12 or more interpretive wayside exhibits and other trail construction and/or improvements at Petty's Island using grants from the William Penn Foundation and the New Jersey Recreational Trails Program.

Mr. Catania provided the **Delaware Bay Migratory Shorebird Subcommittee Report**. Mr. Catania reported that shorebird and horseshoe crab habitat along the Delaware Bay shoreline from Reed's Beach to Pierces Point (an approximate 3.6 mile stretch) reduced to mud and rubble by Hurricane Sandy last fall was successfully restored just days before the beginning of the horseshoe crab spawning season. The additional funding approved by the Trust at its February 22, 2013 meeting was critical as it was the first funding made available for Delaware Bay shoreline restoration enabling matching funds to be sought and provided by the American Littoral Society, NJ Recovery Fund, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Corporate Wetlands Partnership. Middle Township and the Cape May County Mosquito Control Commission also helped with the rubble removal. Based on early reports, it appears that the red knot population was up this spring from the past few years. As noted at the September 2012 meeting, the Delaware Bay Migratory Shorebird account is being quickly depleted. The subcommittee is looking at a number of potential opportunities to replenish the account so that important research and monitoring efforts can be continued.

New Business:

The Board considered the **Hainesville Woods Project Area in Sandyston Township, Sussex County**. The Board suggested that the Trust accept some of the properties in fee, instead of just as a land management assignment, if possible. Mr. DeVito motioned to approve the Hainesville Woods Project Area on the conditions that a \$25,000 land stewardship endowment be provided to the Trust for properties currently owned by The Nature Conservancy and that lands within the Project Area that would present management concerns, such as structures, improvements or contamination or that would require the expenditure of Trust funds, be brought to the Board for specific approval before acquisition. Mr. Torok seconded the motion and the offer was accepted by a vote of 7 to 0.

The Board considered the **Sterling Hill-Dicosmo/GA Land Management Assignment Offer in Ogdensburg Borough, Sussex County**. Ms. Yeany recused herself from the matter. Mr. DeVito motioned to accept the Management Assignment Offer on the condition that the partial taking line was roughly as provided on the map. Mr. Hall seconded the motion and, by a vote of 6 to 0, the offer was accepted with Ms. Yeany abstaining.

The Board considered the Lincoln Grove Project Area in Franklin Township, Somerset County, and South Brunswick Township, Middlesex County. Mr. DeVito motioned to approve the Lincoln Grove Project Area on the condition that lands within the Project Area that would present management concerns, such as structures, improvements or contamination or that would require the expenditure of Trust funds, be brought to the Board for specific approval

before acquisition. Mr. Torok seconded the motion and the offer was accepted by a vote of 6 to 0 with Ms. Yeany abstaining.

The Board considered the **Revision of Management Guidelines/Appendix 1 to authorize Hagedorn Preserve for hunting.** The Board considered whether the Hagedorn Preserve should be opened to the general public for bow hunting only or whether it should enter into a management agreement with an adjacent property owner, Veterans Haven North, for assistance in management of the deer population. Mr. Rapp will discuss this issue with Veterans Haven North and report back to the Board with recommendations regarding hunting at the Hagedorn Preserve.

The Board considered the **2012 Annual Report**. Ms. Wild reported that no comments were received on the report approved by the Board on February 22, 2013, and the report was finalized and posted on the Trust's website.

The remaining **2013 meeting dates** are: September 20, 2013 (to be held at Duke Farms) and December 6, 2013.

Ms. Kreipke motioned for the meeting to be adjourned. Mr. Hall seconded the motion and, by a vote of 7 to 0, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Lettman Secretary/Treasurer