



**LHA PROTECTION
COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES**

**Wednesday, May 5, 2021
ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

9:00 AM

The Protection Committee of the LHA met Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 9:00 A.M. via ZOOM. Those in attendance: Graham McGaffin, Lance Brisbois, Rebecca Castle, Linda Herman, Scott Nelson, and Jeff Seago.

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 A.M. by Chairman, Graham McGaffin.

APPROVE AGENDA – A motion to approve the May 5, 2021 Agenda was made by Scott Nelson, seconded by Linda Herman. Motion Carried.

APPROVE MINUTES – A motion to approve the February 3, 2021 Protection Committee Meeting Minutes was made by Linda Herman, seconded by Scott Nelson. Motion Carried.

BUDGET UPDATE –The Bills Paid Report for July 1, 2019 through April 26, 2021 was presented to the Protection Committee. Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation was paid \$4,500.00 on 12/23/2019 for Monona County Vegetation Management and \$4,000.00 on 03/01/2021 Monona County Vegetation Management. Loess Hills State Forest-Iowa DNR was paid \$10,000.00 on 01/21/2020 for Christensen Farm Prairie Restoration. Total Protection Committee Funds Balance as of May 5, 2021 is \$11,000.00. (\$3,000.00 remaining unspent funds from 2021 and \$8,000.00 relinquished funds from TNC for the Hebert Conservation Easement project in Plymouth County.) These funds will go towards next fall's RFP.

OLD BUSINESS-

- No "Old Business" at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

- Notification to Relinquish Funding of the Hebert Conservation Easement.

In 2020, TNC was awarded \$12,500.00 from the Loess Hills Alliance, \$8,000.00 from Protection Committee and \$4,500.00 from Executive Committee to help fund the Hebert Conservation Easement. The Nature Conservancy in Iowa (TNC) has worked with the Hebert family since 2019 to secure a conservation easement on their property in Plymouth County. Due to various reasons and circumstances, the Heberts have chosen to not participate in an easement at this time. The Loess Hills Alliance was issued a letter from TNC declining the \$12,500.00 designated for the Hebert Conservation easement.

- Friends of Waubonsie Report on Green Hollow “Necessary Infrastructure”

Rebecca Castle presented the Loess Hills Alliance Grant Report by Friends of Waubonsie State Park to the Protection Committee. Project title “Necessary Infrastructure at Blackburn's Green Hollow Addition to Waubonsie State Park” has been installed at a parking area near the gazebo and boardwalk on “Blackburn State Park Unit” under management of Waubonsie State Park. The Friends of Waubonsie State Park would like to thank the Loess Hills Alliance for their contribution to the pit latrine project at Blackburn State Park Unit. A ceremonial grand opening to recognize donors will be set at a later date.

ANNOUNCEMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE – August 4, 2021

ADJOURN – Protection Committee Chairman, Graham McGaffin adjourned the meeting at 9:27 am.