

Board of Commissioners of Trust Funds Meeting Minutes
City of Gloucester
City Hall- First Floor Conference Room
9 Dale Ave
Gloucester, Ma 01930
Monday, August 12, 2026

Present: Karen N. Bell (Chair), Frederica Doeringer (co-Chair), John Bourneuf (Clerk), Linda Pata (CASB) and Rocco DeFilippis (Asst General Counsel).

This meeting was organized around the following agenda:

1. Opening remarks from Commissioner Karen Bell
2. Vote for approval of minutes from meeting of June 29, 2026
3. Review of current balances from Funds and explanation of Huntress Fund size and location: Linda Pata.
4. Status of 5 funds with disbursements authorized in January 2026 or earlier and the ornamental tree fund transferred to DPW.
5. Update on status of Powers and Clough Funds with reference to probate court decrees
 - Margaret Irving Powers Memorial Fund
 - Clough Vocational School Fund
6. Report from Rocco DeFilippis about his research on Action and the Housing Authority related to the Fernald Fund with MA AG Office
7. Ideas for disbursements from accumulated income of Huntress Funds: Discussion all
8. Overall strategy for the remaining funds: Discussion All
9. Dates for future meetings

1 & 2. The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:35am. To start off the meeting there were a few opening remarks from Commissioner Karen Bell and a review of the agenda for the meeting. It was noted that we were not able to broadcast live due to connectivity issues. After discussion of changes needed, A MOTION was made to approve the minutes of the June 29th meeting. There were no changes. The motion was seconded. All were in favor. The minutes were approved, as amended. **ACTION #1:** *Jock will delete the Draft watermark and send the June minutes to Lee O'Leary to post the minutes on the City of Gloucester site.*

3. There was not much discussion regarding funds balances. The Commissioners all had a copy of the April 1 – June 30th fund balances.

4. The Commission next discussed whether there had been distribution of the five funds (Sawyer Medal & Ornamental Tree Fund, Sawyer Drawing & Music Fund, Books & Stationery for

Poor Children, Benjamin M. Smith Fund and the Great Republic Fund). In Conor MacCorkle's absence, there was no status. Karen said that she had sent Conor an e-mail on August 6th and there was no response yet. It was noted that the city just went through the budgeting process; that could be why there has been no response. It was also noted that Conor might be on vacation. **ACTION #1** – *Karen will follow-up with Conor.*

While on the topic of approved disbursements, the Commissioners discussed the Hovey Fund. A \$10,000 disbursement was authorized in December, and it was not known if a check was ever sent to the intended recipient. **ACTION #2** - *Karen to also ask Conor if this transaction had been processed.* The process is such that the city first sends a check to the recipient and then requests CASB to send the city a check of the same magnitude. Linda said she has not seen a payment from CASB. But, once this transaction is confirmed to be completed, the fund balance will drop below the \$75,000 "administrative" hurdle and can be grouped with the others approved by the AG's office.

Karen also noted that the action to disburse funds from the Ornamental Tree Fund was also with Conor MacCorkle. She is also waiting to hear back and will mention to Conor in the above correspondence (**ACTION #3**).

5. Rocco next provided an update on the Clough Vocational School Fund and the Margaret Irving Powers Memorial Fund. Amy Pasquarello, the new Superintendent of Gloucester Public Schools, is reviewing the proposal for only the Clough Fund to coordinate with the Gloucester School Committee. Regarding the Margaret Irving Powers Memorial Fund, it was noted that Gloucester DPW is the Administrator of the monies from this Fund.

6. Rocco briefly discussed the Fernald Fund status. The original thinking was that the Health Department or the Youth Prevention Team were potential recipients. If it was to go to the Youth Prevention Team, perhaps this distribution could be combined with the Tufts Charity Fund.

ACTION #4 – *Rocco will continue to work with the AG's office for the Clough and Fernald Funds and work iterations of the petition drafts with the AG's office.*

7. The Huntress Fund was discussed next. Karen & Freddie discussed the results of their inquiries with the Gloucester Housing Authority, The Rose Baker Center and Action Inc. On August 6th, Karen Bell provided the following summary e-mail of her conversation with Gail Campbell at the Gloucester Housing Authority. She noted that many of the past funds have come from the State for Section 8 housing. The e-mail goes on...

"Gail spent 11 years working as a social worker for the Gloucester Housing Authority. The Housing Authority is a state/city agency that issues housing vouchers for qualifying individuals.

Gail said that many elderly people are very low-income and have difficulty finding housing. She said that Action Inc. frequently helps people move into subsidized housing but that often people don't have the money to pay for a mover, buy new/used furniture, transport it, and pay deposits and other fees for housing. She thought that Action would be a good recipient of monies intended to keep elderly people from becoming homeless or put in uncomfortable situations with relatives." It appears that the Huntress Home did essentially this for poor elderly women. Senior Care just provides personal home care services for elderly, many with medical needs." It was further noted that funding from the Huntress Fund will just be the current accumulated income from the fund, not the principal.

ACTION #5 – *Freddie to draft an RFP. This may be based on an old draft already completed*

8. The Babson House was also discussed briefly at the end of the meeting. Rocco noted that the petition for this fund is being worked with the AG's office. It was noted that this fund does not fall under the purview and responsibility of the Commission.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:40am. All approved. The Commission agreed to meet again on October 6th at 9:30am in the 1st floor conference room, Gloucester City Hall.

Respectfully submitted

John Bourneuf, Clerk