

Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust
September 12, 2016
5:30 p.m.
Town Hall

Call to Order- 5:31

Roll Call- D. Poyer, D. Stetson (ex-officio), A. Webb, J. Beuth,, R Anderson, S. Paton, E. Johnson, R. Swanson (Pending Board Member)

Not Present- N. Hess (ex-officio)

Approval of Minutes- **Motion to approve the minutes J. Beuth, R. Anderson 2nd**
With corrections
All Ayes

Communications-

Donations of \$300

D. Poyer sent a letter to The Nature Conservancy to let them know that a Boy Scout was going to add a trail at the Crawley Preserve. They have the easement on the property and have approved the work.

Approval of Invoice(s) for Payment – None

Public Forum - none

Old Business

1. Member reports

J. Beuth reported that Scout Preston has completed his wood duck box project. He has submitted some pictures and written information to J. Beuth. The boxes were placed on the Bradner and Crawley Preserves. J. Beuth suggests we add the boxes to our stewardship monitoring.

E. Johnson met with Holly about the records keeping project. She gave us some files back that may be pending properties. She suggested we save invoices to add to the files. She will meet again at the end of September for further files. There are some

trees down in the Crawley that need to be cleared. A. Webb said he would take care of that for us.

A. Webb has found some old RRPLT files and has passed them on to E. Johnson for the record keeping project.

2. Land Trust Days

Friday is the Harvest Moon Hike, and we haven't had a lot of interest so far. We have some signs posted at the various Preserves. D. Poyer was in communication with P. Drumm and we will be asking for a small donation for the Johnnycake cook. D. Poyer and S. Paton are looking to walk the Preserve prior to the event on Thursday night. E. Johnson will pick up some cups and will print up maps of the Crawley Preserve. R. Swanson has offered to donate the cider for the event from his son's cider mill.

3. Stetson Preserve opening

The date of October 8 will work better for the majority of the board, and will give D. Poyer time to send out invitations and write the press release. We will have a rain date of October 9th. We will set the time for 10:00 a.m.

S. Paton's husband is unable to build the kiosk. J. Turek had some scouts that were looking for a project.

4. Review of Stetson Trail Maps-

In review of the map, S. Paton thinks we should put an insert for a location map. A topography map is inserted on the map now. The address on the map is a great feature. It is the consensus of the board to correct the name of the Beaver River, to a tributary of the Beaver River. We would like to have the parking area put on the map. We won't have a kiosk in time for the opening, and perhaps we will look for a group to volunteer. J. Beuth suggests we mark the lookout area in a different color so it is visible.

5. New Land Trust Board Member

Rob Swanson is our new board member. He has lived in Richmond since 1988, and is S. Paton's neighbor. He is a carpenter and has worked with the USDA and was on the Southern RI Conservation board with the USDA. He is going before the Town Council to make it official soon.

6. Boy Scout projects

D. Poyer has been working with 2 scouts. One would like to put a connector trail with an overlook on the Crawley Preserve. He would like to build a couple of benches to be placed on a nice overlook. This will be a spur trail with a switchback that connects the Brook trail with the Red Fox trail. He plans to start working on this in mid-

October.

The other Scout is interested in working on a trail system for the Kenyon Preserve.
D. Poyer will have R. Anderson work with the scout on this trail system.

New Business

1. Proposed Zoning change

D. Stetson reports that K. Ellsworth and R. Brown met with the Owners requesting the zoning change. There are 3 different land owners applying for a zoning change to a new zone called the Preserve. This was summited on August 1st to the Town Council. The planning board is having a hearing on Part 1, and there is a public hearing on the comprehensive plan. He is looking for 20,000 square foot gross floor area for general retail stores. K. Ellsworth had them put 30% in open space. He is also looking for residential development density on 20,000 square feet of land. The planning board is working on their proposal to go before the town council with their recommendation. As the Saila Preserve is an abutting property we have been notified of the proposed change. Our mission is to maintain the rural character of the town. We will review this matter more closely, and D. Poyer will start drafting a list of concerns and we will keep communications open on this. The public hearing is September 20, 2016.

Next Agenda

1. Review items for next agenda

Motion to adjourn J. Beuth, A. Webb 2nd

All Ayes

Adjourn 7:03

Respectfully Submitted:



Elizabeth Johnson, Clerk RRPLT