

Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust  
January 9, 2017  
5:30 p.m.  
Town Hall

Call to Order 5:30

Roll Call- D. Poyer, R. Anderson, R. Swanson, J. Beuth, S. Paton, E. Johnson

Not Present- D. Stetson (ex-officio) N. Hess (ex-officio)

Approval of Minutes-

**Motion to approve December 2016 regular minutes R. Anderson, R. Swanson 2<sup>nd</sup> All Ayes**

**Motion to approve December 2016 executive session minutes R. Anderson, R. Swanson 2<sup>nd</sup> All Ayes**

Communications-

- We received two \$50.00 donations from Jack Chagnon and Susan Shaw.
- The Town Council sent citations of recognition for all board members.
- The Historic Preservation Society sent a notice about an upcoming 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual RI Statewide Preservation Conference to be held on April 29, 2017.

Approval of Invoice(s) for Payment- none

Public Forum - none

Old Business

1. Member reports

R. Swanson was following up to see if anything had been done about the possible incursion on the Bradner preserve. R. Swanson saw a temporary horse fence on a right of way towards Hoxie road. J. Beuth asked if any of the land had been cleared. R. Swanson was not sure, just that no big trees had recently been removed. J. Aptt is the land owner in question. S. Paton will send a letter to the land owner, after she makes a visit to the preserve.

2. Boy Scout projects

Kenyon Preserve-

R. Anderson spoke with Austin Winters, they have completed the trails and completed the blazes. D. Poyer walked the trails and asked that blazes on any rocks be removed. Also, rock steps need to be placed at the 2 crossings on the intermittent

stream. R. Anderson will contact the scout about this. The parking area will not be put in until the spring due to the snow.

Crawley Preserve-

The boy scouts have finished the trails, and we need to consider making a sign for the new white trail. It will be called White Tail Trail.

### New Business

1. Election of officers

**Motion to nominate S. Paton to Chair of the Land Trust, D. Poyer, R. Swanson 2<sup>nd</sup> All Ayes**

**Motion to nominate R. Anderson to Vice Chair to the Land Trust- D. Poyer, R. Swanson 2<sup>nd</sup> All Ayes**

**Motion to nominate E. Johnson to be the clerk of the Land Trust, D. Poyer, R. Anderson 2<sup>nd</sup> All Ayes**

2. 2017/2018 Budget

D. Poyer needed to put the budget in for this year.

2017 budget year end 6-30-17

D. Poyer requested more money for appraisals, as we have been approached by property owners.

The request of Capital funds was increased to \$500,000 from the previous year of \$250,000. The Land Trust will need this to match some open space grants now available. The town council will look this over as they draft the town budget. There will be a town financial meeting, and the council will approve the budget. Then the budget is voted on by the town of Richmond. The Land Trust budget was presented to the committee by D. Poyer.

3. Signage on properties

D. Poyer spoke with R. Friday about posted signs on the preserves and he suggested we contact other land trusts. The Nature Conservancy sent a copy of some signage they use. Our signage is used so people are aware of what is allowed on the land trust properties. Our current posted signs list what is not allowed on the property. It was the consensus of the board that we need to update our signs to make our properties more inviting. It would be time consuming to replace the signs on all borders of our land trust properties. This would be costly and perhaps could be a stewardship project or scout projects. J. Beuth suggests we list all that isn't allowed on the property. S. Paton agrees that we should remove the negative signage. Some future language could be "Please help us protect the Rural character of this property" or "Please help us protect the natural features of this property for future generations".

E. Johnson will check with Voss signs on the possible cost. Yellow color with black lettering same size that we have, for cost purposes. She will gather the information on prices for the next meeting.

4. Spring stewardship projects  
Stewardship day has not been decided as of yet, perhaps April 29.  
We will discuss this at our next meeting and discuss forming a stewardship committee.  
Stewardship projects could include building bridges and invasive species removal along with possible sign replacement.

**Motion to enter executive session, S. Paton, R. Anderson 2<sup>nd</sup>  
D. Poyer- Aye, R. Anderson-Aye, S. Paton-Aye, J. Beuth-Aye, R. Swanson-Aye, E.  
Johnson- Aye**

#### Executive Session

**Executive session pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Section as amended 1956, Chapter 42-46-5(a)(5) to discuss acquisition of property for public purposes.**

- 5)Updating the priority List

**Motion to exit executive session, J. Beuth, R. Anderson 2<sup>nd</sup>- D Poyer-Aye, R.  
Anderson-Aye, S. Paton-Aye, J. Beuth-Aye, R. Swanson-Aye, E. Johnson-Aye**

**Motion to seal the minutes of executive session, J. Beuth, R. Swanson 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Poyer-  
Aye, R. Anderson-Aye, S. Paton-Aye, J. Bueth-Aye, R. Swanson-Aye, E. Johnson-  
Aye**

**A motion to assign a workshop night, to have the time to accurately score the  
properties and update the Land Trust Priority List on January 23, 2017 at the town  
hall 5:30 PM- S. Paton, R. Swanson 2<sup>nd</sup>-D. Poyer-Aye, S. Paton-Aye, R. Anderson-  
Aye, R. Swanson-Aye, J. Beuth-Aye, E. Johnson-Aye**

#### Next Agenda

1. Review items for next agenda  
It was discussed that we will need to consider at some point going forward starting a friends of the land trust private committee 501C. This would take time and money and possibility having to hire a part time director to keep the books. The committee would be eligible for more funding- federal conservation easement programs. Paper work for certification in the land trust alliance is a future consideration.

**Motion to Adjourn, R. Anderson, R. Swanson 2<sup>nd</sup>  
All Ayes**

Adjourn 7:12

Respectfully Submitted:



E. Johnson, Clerk RRPLT