

Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust
May 4, 2020
6:30 P.M., via Zoom*
(Instructions to Join the Meeting follow the Agenda)

Please note: Any matter listed on this agenda may be acted upon by RRPLT

Call to Order: 6:46 PM

Roll Call: S. Paton, S. Lacey (ex-officio), J. Davenport, D. Poyer, T. Beitz, A. Fox
Not present: R. Swanson, R. Anderson, N. Hess (ex-officio)

Approval of Minutes: postponed until June's Meeting (March Minutes)

Communications: S. Paton shared that the RRPLT received a \$25 donation. S. Paton also shared a letter from the Rhode Island Open Space Grant stating that the RRPLT was one of the recipients (\$235,000). S. Paton received an updated market assessment of current RRPLT properties. S. Paton received an email from Nancy Karraker, URI professor, asking to deploy a few tiny recording devices at Scudder to monitor vocalizations for spadefoot toads. S. Paton authorized deployment to record amphibian activity.

Approval of Invoices for Payment: S. Lacey updated the board that he is currently waiting for Mary Hutchinson, GIS specialist, to invoice the RRPLT for her work updating the preserve maps.

Public Forum: None.

Old Business

1. Member Reports
 - a. None.
2. Town Planner Updates
 - a. No Town Planner updates. There was a brief discussion of virtual meetings and public access.
3. Budget Updates
 - a. There was a brief discussion of the budget request from the Town. A public meeting will be held Monday, May 11th to learn more.
4. Stewardship Updates
 - a. There was a brief discussion of increased preserve traffic and the status of trail conditions.
5. Property Acquisition Updates
 - a. None.
6. Board Recruitment Updates
 - a. Nancy Grundstrom is still interested, was supposed to go before the Town Council, but COVID-19 shutdown has delayed actions. S. Paton. suggested the board consider posting a "vacancy" on the Town's website.

New Business:

1. Councilwoman Carpenter's request to unseal Executive Session Minutes
 - a. There was a discussion of methodology on how to determine which minutes are sensitive and which are not. S. Lacey will inquire about how to conduct an executive session, virtually.
2. Payment for Maps
 - a. Tabled for the next meeting.
3. Chan Preserve: Status of Level I Survey, Appraisal, other Open Space Grant Requirements
 - a. S. Paton informed K. Pinch to solicit contractors for a Level I Survey, but that bid has not yet been posted. S. Paton will follow up with K. Pinch on status.
 - b. D. Poyer updated the board on the Chan Preserve Appraisal bids and their price points. D. Poyer suggested Newport Appraisal based on reputable track record.
 - c. J. Davenport motioned to hire Newport Appraisal to conduct an appraisal of the Chan Preserve. T. Bietz 2nd. All ayes.
4. Saila Preserve: Status of Engineering Bids for entrance road design and permitting
 - a. S. Paton shared that seven firms submitted a response to design an access road and parking area at the Saila Preserve. D. Poyer offered to serve on a subcommittee focused on bid review, with J. Davenport and S. Paton.
5. Town Purchasing Ordinance, Policies, and Procedures
 - a. Tabled for the next meeting.
6. Discussion of Subcommittee Formation
 - a. Engineering Bid Review & Rank ad hoc committee; D. Poyer, J. Davenport, S. Paton, S. Lacey.
 - i. A. Fox motioned to create an Engineering Bid Review and Rank ad hoc committee, J. Davenport 2nd. All ayes.
 - b. Land Acquisition & Protection subcommittee; J. Davenport, S. Paton, D. Poyer, A. Fox
 - i. S. Paton motioned to create a Land Acquisition & Protection subcommittee, T. Bietz, 2nd. All ayes.
 - c. Stewardship Subcommittee; R. Anderson, R. Swanson.
 - i. J. Davenport motioned to create a Stewardship subcommittee, T. Bietz, 2nd. All ayes.
7. Narragansett Trail Restoration
 - a. Tabled for the next meeting.
8. Eagle Scout Update
 - a. Eagle Scout, Logan McCue, mapped a new blue trail at the Kenyon Preserve showcasing some of the property's features. He will be submitting a final draft plan for board review. Brief discussion of the red trail being blazed without knowing who did it. Discussion of building a kiosk and small parking area. S. Paton will reach out to town and see about constructing a parking area and what the timeline would be. S. Paton will inform L. McCue that the draft of the trail map has been approved.
 - b. J. Davenport motioned to approve Eagle Scout, Logan McCue, to work with R. Swanson on creating the blue trail as mapped. A. Fox 2nd. All ayes.
9. Trail Maintenance/ Increased Traffic

- a. Discussed under “Stewardship Updates”. T. Bietz offered to help with trail maintenance. D.Poyer offered to print COVID-19 social distancing flyers and post at preserves with trails.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO R.I. GEN. LAWS SECTION AS AMENDED 1956, CHAPTER 42-46-5(a)(2) SESSIONS PERTAINING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING OR LITIGATION AND CHAPTER 42-46-5(a)(5) TO DISCUSS ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES.

Next Agenda:

1. Review Items for next agenda

T. Bietz motioned to adjourn. J. Davenport 2nd. All ayes.

Adjourn: 7:56PM

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Topic: Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust
Time: May 4, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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