

Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust

February 7, 2022 - Minutes 5:30 P.M.

This meeting was teleconferenced via Zoom.
Richmond, RI 02898

Call to Order: 5:34 PM

Roll Call: S. Paton, A. Bryson, R. Anderson, R. Swanson, J. Davenport, S. Lacey (ex-officio), N. Gronstrom

Absent: None.

Approval of Minutes:

1. January 10, 2022 Minutes - R. Anderson motioned to approve the January 10, 2022 Minutes as amended. J. Davenport 2nd. All ayes.

Communications:

Potential bow hunting inquiry for the Kenyon Preserve: S. Paton shared local resident's desire to hunt the Kenyon Preserve. There was a brief board discussion of current deed restrictions.

Approval of Invoices for Payment:

1. Approval of payment to Horsely-Witten for services rendered December 2021 for \$2,966.25
 - a. R. Swanson motioned for payment of \$2,966.25 to Horsely-Witten, R. Anderson 2nd. All Ayes.
 - b. S. Paton stated that work on the project has been paused.

Public Forum: None.

*Note: Comments during Public Forum will only be heard and not acted upon by the Trustees. Section 42-46-6 of the Open Meetings Act, and Department of the Attorney General Advisory Opinions relevant to this item on any public body meeting agenda specifically prohibits the Board of Trustees from discussing, considering or acting on any topic, statement or question presented. The Board of Trustees may, if warranted, refer such matters to an appropriate committee, to another body or official, or post the matter for consideration at a properly-noticed, future meeting.**

Standing Updates and Reports:

1. Member Reports - A. Bryson provided an update on the RI Land Trust Council's new "Land Stewardship Coordinator" role and responsibilities. Brief board discussion on volunteer use and keeping communication with interested parties. A. Bryson will reach out to the new coordinator.
2. Budget Update - none.
3. Town Planner Report- S. Lacey provided an update on the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Public Workshop scheduled for Wednesday, February 16 at 6:00 pm.

4. Stewardship Subcommittee Update
 - a. S. Paton provided a brief update on the Saila parking area design and construction project.
 - b. S. Paton shared there has been no new updates on RIDEM trail grant status.
 - c. Mapping of trails and development of updated maps for kiosks at all properties.
 - i. R. Swanson shared that he has the "Bad Elf" mapping tool but has not had time to train fellow board members due to weather.
 - d. Discussion of existing management plans and approved public uses - discussed at prior meeting.
 - e. Discussion of illegal signage and trespassing at Saila Preserve.
 - i. S. Paton will reach out to the abutter and notify them that the land trust will be removing the illegal signage and address the issue of the abutter-created trail.

5. Property Acquisition Subcommittee Update
 - a. Update on meeting to develop a prioritization document for properties in Richmond using rubric approved by Town Council.
 - i. Subcommittee held a meeting on the 20th of January and began prioritizing properties in Richmond; 49 properties, including forests, farmland; 25 (5-65 acres), 14 (66-125 acres), and 10 (126+ acres). Plan to have a follow up meeting to produce prioritization scores.

6. Communications / Outreach Subcommittee Update
 - a. Update on laminated hunting posters and discussion of posting at preserves- discussed at previous meeting.

New Business:

1. RRPLT Dropbox review, trustee access, and discussion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The trustees may move to executive session pursuant to Rhode Island General Law 42-46 5(5) Discussion of Potential Acquisition of Real Estate for Conservation.

1. Any discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public.
2. Discussion regarding communications with land owners and the potential acquisition or conservation of five properties in Richmond.

There was no Executive Session held for the February 2022 Land Trust meeting.

Next Agenda:

1. Review Items for next agenda: monitoring reports for preserves.

R. Swanson motion to adjourn. R. Anderson 2nd. All ayes.

Adjourn: 7:06 PM

The public is welcome to any open meeting of the Town Council or its committees. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captions) is needed or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please contact the Town ADA Coordinator at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting at (401) 539-9000 x4.