

Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust

May 3rd, 2021 - Minutes

May 3rd, 2021
5:30 P.M., via Zoom*

Call to Order: 5:33 PM

Roll Call: S. Paton, N. Gronstrom, T. Bietz, R. Anderson, J. Davenport, S. Lacey (ex-officio), D. Madnick (ex-officio)

Not Present: A. Fox, R. Swanson

Others: D. Poyer, J. Pixeiro, A. Pickett, unidentified members of the public listening via Zoom.

Approval of Minutes: R. Anderson motioned to approve the April 5, 2021 Minutes as amended. J. Davenport 2nd. S. Paton, Aye. T. Bietz, Aye. N. Gronstrom, Aye.

R. Anderson motioned to approve the April 9, 2021 Executive Session minutes. J. Davenport, Nay. T. Bietz, Nay. S. Paton, Nay. N. Gronstrom, Nay. R. Anderson, Nay.

Communications: None.

Approval of Invoices for Payment:

1. Horsley-Witten invoice for work completed in March 2021, \$3,803.86. S. Paton reported that she believes the work is near 80% complete. She will submit the invoice to the Treasurer for payment.

Public Forum: None.

Old Business

1. Member Reports
 - a. Follow up on character sculptures: S. Paton reported that the RRPLT received "skunk cabbage" for the Bradner Preserve's sculpture and "post oak" for the Crawley Preserve's sculpture. Right now, they are limiting one per town therefore Crawley will receive "post oak".
 - b. R. Anderson shared that he arranged to meet with Rupert Friday of the RI Land Trust Council, but Rupert did not show up. R. Anderson tried to get in touch and waited for approximately 40 minutes. S. Paton will reach out to see what may have happened. R. Anderson suggested the sign be placed at the top of the hill in the blueberry barrens.
 - c. S. Paton shared that she received a \$50 donation. N. Gronstrom mailed out a thank you note.
2. Town Planner Update
 - a. None.
3. Budget Update
 - a. None.

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4. Stewardship Subcommittee Update
 - a. Eagle Scout project proposal from Aidan Pickett of Troop 44, Matunuck.
 - i. R. Swanson and S. Paton met Aidan Pickett and his father at the Saila Preserve. A. Pickett shared his concept of building a kiosk and clearing trails. The kiosk and signage will be similar to the Kenyon Preserve's sign. The work is expected to happen in August and September. S. Paton offered the brush cutter machine. A. Pickett will share his proposal with the Scout Council and wait for approval. RRPLT trustees will work on a recommendation for the trail location to share with the Board.
 - b. Horsely-Witten Group - design meeting update
 - i. S. Paton reported that Horsley-Witten mapped the location of the wetlands but they didn't think the RRPLT would need a wetland permit. Though, coordination with the DEM about water flow and a retaining wall on the north boundary might be necessary if a road were to be constructed along the right of way. Alternatively, the RRPLT could develop a small parking area along the cul de sac and then a walking trail along the right of way.
 - c. RIDEM Trail Grant discussion - no updates
 - d. S. Paton shared an update on management plan for Chan; the management plan has been accepted by RIDEM.
5. Property Acquisition Subcommittee Update
 - a. Appraisal bid update
 - i. S. Paton requested 3 bids and only received one and the bidder asked for more information. The "reply by" date was May 3rd. S. Paton will continue to reach out to additional companies.
6. Communications / Outreach Subcommittee Update
 - a. Kenyon Trail Map - review and discussed the need to print a trail map for the kiosk.

New Business:

1. None.

R. Anderson motioned to enter Executive Session. J. Davenport 2nd. S. Paton, Aye. T. Bietz, Aye. N. Grontsom, Aye.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The trustees may move to executive session pursuant to gen. laws 42-46-5(a)(5) discussion related to the acquisition of real property for public purposes to include two potential properties, including one adjacent to an existing land trust parcel.

1. Discussion of potential property acquisitions abutting an existing RRPLT Property.

R. Anderson motioned to exit Executive Session. J. Davenport 2nd. S. Paton, Aye. T. Bietz, Aye. N. Grontsom, Aye.

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R. Anderson motioned to authorize S. Paton and the land acquisition subcommittee to initiate discussions with the landowner of the property discussed in executive session. J. Davenport 2nd. N. Gronstrom, Aye. T. Bietz, Aye. S. Paton, Aye.

R. Anderson motioned to seal the Executive Session minutes. J. Davenport 2nd. S. Paton, Aye. T. Bietz, Aye. N. Grontsom, Aye.

Next Agenda:

1. Review Items for next agenda

R. Anderson motioned to adjourn the meeting. J. Davenport 2nd. S. Paton, Aye. T. Bietz, Aye. N. Grontsom, Aye.

Adjourn: 8:27 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