

Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust
June 6, 2011
5:30 p.m.
Town Hall

MINUTES

Call to Order

Roll Call

Denise Poyer, Gary Whitney, Andy Webb, Rick Anderson, Chuck More, Pete August, Roberta Engel, Denise Stetson

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: C. More, 2nd A. Webb to approve May 2, 2011 minutes.

All Ayes

Communications

Land & People (Trust for Public Land journal)

Town Council agenda for June 7

Approval of Invoice(s) for Payment

Baseline Documentation Invoice for the Bradner Preserve was received from Linda Steere, the total fee is \$1000, the Conservation Stewardship Collaborative has granted \$750 toward this and we pay \$250 which will be paid from the unrestricted fund (an account for property management and purchase)

MOTION: C. More, 2nd R. Engel to approve Baseline Documentation Invoice payment

All Ayes

Public Forum

D. Poyer received a phone message from a town resident expressing a concern about access to RRPLT property. The caller did not leave a message so D. Poyer is bringing the concern to the RRPLT. The woman was walking on the Scudder Preserve and was chased off by someone. Her concern is there is no information about the property posted (e.g., trails, access rules).

Old Business

1. Member reports

Chuck: Chuck removed the teepee from the Crawley Preserve.

Roberta: The Tree ID walk led by Peter Stetson was well attended. [Thirteen joined the walk; several interested were put on a waiting list.]

Andy: "Friends of the RRPLT" tax bill stuffers should be sent to the printer.

MOTION: A. Webb, 2nd R. Engel to use unrestricted account funds to pay for "Friends of the RRPLT" tax bill stuffer

All Ayes

2. Trails Advisory Committee grant update
The Town Council approved the grant submission. D. Poyer is confident we will get funding. Funds will cover materials for bridge building.

New Business

1. Peter Stetson presented on the Coverts Program and on GIS mapping. Logging of RRPLT properties (i.e., Stetson Property) could potentially have some worth. The state is supporting early successional habitat restoration. Peter created a GIS map of the Crawley Preserve with trails; photos are linked with sites along the trail. This work is in preparation for the interpretive trail signage.
2. Crystal Viollete, a teacher at Coventry High School, silkscreens shirts. Roberta will get an estimate for silkscreening a 2-color image on 20 polyester vests.
3. Denise was contacted by TNC which is interested in acquiring a 35-acre property in Richmond; the property is off Heaton Orchard Rd and has frontage on the Queens River. The property, ~2/3 wetlands, has unique kame and kettle formations. A preserve would protect groundwater and wetlands biodiversity. The purchase might provide public access to the Queens and Usquepaug Rivers. Funding will be sought from the NRCS wetland purchase program which provides full value for wetlands and partial support for uplands. Additional funds could come from the Champlin Foundation. TNC is initially seeking a letter of support from RRPLT. Denise did inform TNC that financial support from RRPLT, if requested, would be limited.

MOTION: P. August, 2nd R. Anderson for D. Poyer to enter discussions with TNC to be partners on the possible purchase of the identified property

All Ayes with C. More abstaining

4. Posting public access information for Land Trust properties
Trustees discussed where and how to present information about the trails. In the past we have discussed creating a RRPLT blog; Pete will ask Steve Sette to contact Andy about the possibility of linking the town website to a RRPLT blog. We will also provide town hall with a map of the trails at the Crawley Property. Pete and Chuck will make necessary changes to the map and it will give Helena a PDF file. Helena can post a copy on the town hall bulletin board.
5. Review of baseline report from Steere on Bradner Preserve
Tabled to a future meeting.
6. Plan for work on the Bradner Trail with the Youth Crew.
The week of July 16 has been targeted for trail construction. The specific date will be decided via email. The Youth Crew award requires RRPLT to contribute at least 24 hours of labor.

Agenda Items for the July meeting

1. Presentation by URI forestry course on Scudder Preserve Forest Management Plan
2. Report on Bradner Preserve trail construction
3. Other

Adjourn

MOTION: to adjourn until next scheduled meeting. A. Webb, 2nd R. Anderson

All Ayes

Adjourn

7pm

Approved and accepted on _____ Attest: _____