

Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust
October 3, 2011
5:30 p.m.
Town Hall

MINUTES

Call to Order at 5:36 pm

Roll Call

Peter August, Chuck More, Gary Whitney, Denise Poyer, Rick Anderson, Roberta Engel
Absent: Andy Webb, Denise Stetson

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: C. More, 2nd R. Anderson to approve Sept. 19, 2011 minutes.
All Ayes

Communications

None

Approval of Invoice(s) for Payment

None

Public Forum

None

Old Business

1. Member reports

C. More: 1) several volunteers have contacted Chuck about joining the Bradner Preserve trail construction crew; 2) Irene brought down trees across the trails at Crawley, they are large and Chuck recommends professional removal; 3) dogs have been unleashed a Crawley

Discussion of possible ways to get dog owners to keep dogs leashed: have D. Smith, Editor of Wood River Press could do a piece; RRPLT write a Letter to the Editor (Wood River Press); involve Anne Fisher, Richmond Animal Control Officer, C. More notes there is a Town Ordinance regarding “dog-at-large”

New Business

1. Discussion of recommendations by the URI Foresters course on Scudder Preserve Forest Management Plan. There was consensus that cutting 100’ back around the rear agricultural field would be a good way to increase wildlife habitat. We would maintain the area primarily as low scrub but some trees would be left to provide variation of habitat. The next course of action is to get someone to clear the area (primarily white pine). NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) has money to clear lands but the funds are not available to municipal land trusts. D. Poyer will first speak with Heidi and Neil Quinn, the Scudder Property stewards,

about their interest in clearing the pines. Others resources we might tap into for help include S. Barber (Richmond Public Works), TNC (The Nature Conservancy), WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program).

2. Bradner Preserve trail construction is scheduled for October 8th. Materials have been purchased and work crew will include trustees and volunteers
3. D. Poyer received a call from Jason Kavarian, a neighbor to the Kenyon property requesting permission to cut and remove dead trees along the property line. When R. Kenyon owned the property, he had given J. Kavarian permission to collect in that manner. The conservation easement does not mention the removal of downed trees. DEM holds the easement; D. Poyer will speak with L. Primiano to get an okay. If this practice is allowed, we would need some formal agreement (e.g., to address liability issues) with the party and we may ask the individual to perform stewardship duties.
4. In reviewing neighbors (possible stewards) of the Crawley Preserve, it was noted NP Cornish owns a ~20 acre parcel south of Crawley. D. Poyer will send a letter to Cornish to inform of RRPLT mission.

Executive Session

MOTION: C. More, 2nd P. August to enter Executive Session
All Ayes

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.

MOTION: C. More, 2nd by P August to seal Executive Session minutes
All Ayes

Agenda

1. Rules and Regulations require revision; C. More will send out a copy for all to review.

Adjourn 7:03

MOTION: R. Anderson, 2nd P. August to adjourn
All Ayes