

Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust

January 10, 2022 - Minutes
5:30 P.M.

This meeting was teleconferenced via Zoom.
Richmond, RI 02898

Call to Order: 5:34 PM

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

Absent: None.

Approval of Minutes:

1. December 6, 2021 Minutes

J. Davenport motioned to approve the December 6, 2021 Minutes, A. Bryson 2nd, as amended. All Ayes.

2. December 6, 2021 Executive Session Minutes

R. Anderson motioned to approve the December 6, 2021 Executive Session Minutes, J. Davenport 2nd, as amended. All Ayes.

Communications: S. Paton shared an email from the URI researcher doing fisher study and no new additional species have been detected on the Bradner Preserve.

Approval of Invoices for Payment:

1. Approval of payment to Horsely-Witten for services rendered November 2021 for \$213.75

R. Swanson motioned to approve payment. R. Anderson 2nd. All ayes.

2. Reimbursement for (10) hunting poster laminations to N. Gronstrom totaling \$29.85.

R. Anderson motioned to approve payment. J. Davenport 2nd. All ayes.

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 Town Council from discussing, considering or acting on any topic, statement or question presented. The Town Council 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

R. Anderson and R. Swanson went to Stetson and cleared the trails impromptu. Peter Stetson joined and helped.

2. Budget Update - none.

3. Stewardship Subcommittee Update

- a. Update and Discussion on Saila parking area design and construction.
 - i. S. Paton shared that Horsely Witten is working on a construction design set plans. Horsely Witten reached out to S. Barber (DPW) to potentially collaborate on drainage and possibly upgrading the stormwater management at the site.
- b. Update and discussion on RIDEM trail grant and community outreach.
 - i. S. Paton heard back from DEM and they stated that a formal letter will be sent out in the next few months. Any services rendered prior to the formal letter going out might not be reimbursed. Brief board discussion about holding off on work until formal letter is received. Brief board discussion about posting a friendly notification in the neighborhood alerting residents to near future construction activities. S. Lacey suggested multiple forms: social media announcement, town newsletter, and a letter.
- c. Mapping of trails and development of updated maps for kiosks at all properties
 - i. R. Swanson has the Bad Elf (mapping tool) in hand but has not yet tested it in the woods. He will report back once he finds time. R. Anderson offered to join him. Trustees will meet with Rob on the 5th and the 19th to review Bad Elf training.
- d. Discussion of existing management plans and approved public uses
 - i. Brief board discussion and updating new member A. Bryson on the management plans. J. Davenport is creating a spreadsheet of the various preserves and management plans. He will share with the board once completed.
- e. Discussion of illegal signage and trespassing at Saila Preserve
 - i. S. Paton shared that signage has been posted on Land Trust property based on survey monuments at the Saila Preserve. A. Bryson offered to join S. Paton Saturday for a site walk and will report back to the board.

4. Property Acquisition Subcommittee Update

- a. Discuss potential for meeting to develop a prioritization document for properties in Richmond using rubric approved by Town Council.
 - i. Planning to meet January 20th at 7PM.

5. Communications / Outreach Subcommittee Update

- a) Update on laminated hunting posters and discussion of posting at preserves.
 - i) N. Gronstrom had questions regarding which preserves have hunting; Bradner, Saila, Kenyon, Stetson are hunted by permit. N. Gronstrom will distribute.

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 for the Land Trust's January 2022 meeting.

Next Agenda:

1. Review Items for next agenda
 - Organization of documents for the various properties, A. Bryson hopes for continued movement on that and hopes to review and report back.
 - Tour of Dropbox

R. Anderson motioned to adjourn, A. Bryson 2nd. All ayes.

Adjourn: 7:15 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.