

Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust

May 1, 2023 - Minutes

5:30 P.M.

This meeting was held in person.

2nd Floor Conference Room, Town Hall
5 Richmond Townhouse Rd
Richmond, RI 02898

Call to Order: 5:33 PM

Roll Call: A. Bryson, R. Anderson, J. Davenport, R. Pouliot, S. Paton, A. Fox

Absent: S. Lacey, P. Damicis, R. Swanson

Approval of Minutes:

1. April 3, 2023 Minutes
 - a. J. Davenport motioned, R. Anderson 2nd as amended. All ayes.
2. April 3, 2023 Executive Session Minutes
 - a. J. Davenport motioned, A. Bryson 2nd. All ayes.

Communications: S. Paton received an email regarding a property on Hillsdale and inquired about when hunting occurs. The RRPLT does not own property on Hillsdale, so it seems there may have been confusion.

Approval of Invoices for Payment: Approval of payment for invoice from Newport Appraisal Group, LLC in the amount of \$2,300.00. A Bryson motioned. 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 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. Status of new sign at Scudder Preserve - complete but not installed. Tabled to next meeting when R. Swanson is in attendance.
 - b. A. Bryson shared the Land Trust Council's new volunteer resources. Reminded the board that we can always bring a project to the Land Trust Council; they will find volunteers and manage the project. Brief discussion on project opportunities;

- invasive plant removal, build boardwalk across wetland areas.
- c. J. Davenport reported on “ the review of all the conservation easements and management plans for [Land Trust] properties and summarize all permitted uses.”
 - i. Board review of current permitted uses, conservation easements, and management plans and discussion of updating where needed.
 - ii. Board discussion of permitted uses to include on new signage - will draft samples to present at next meeting.
 2. Budget Update - None.
 3. Town Planner Report - None.
 4. Stewardship Subcommittee Update
 - a. R. Anderson provided a brief update on the status of the preserves.
 5. Land Protection Subcommittee Update
 - a. S. Paton reported on the recent appraisals for a property discussed in Executive Session. TNC would only be able to partner with Land Trust on a property purchased for fair market value, not more. S. Paton expressed the board' interest in preserving the property discussed with the landowner and the potential of incorporating the Friedland Memorial funding. S. Paton will notify the Friendlands. Board will discuss prospective properties at the next meeting.
 6. Communications / Outreach Subcommittee Update - tabled to next meeting.
 - a. Kiosk signage estimates review and approval for printing.
 - i. S. Paton shared quote from Printsource for metal laminate printing; \$254.62/sign.
 - b. Discussion of additional signage work needed.

New Business: None.

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 properties in Richmond

Next Agenda:

1. Review Items for next agenda:
 - a. Prospective Zach Friendland properties.
 - b. Land owner outreach.
 - c. Stetson management plan.

J. Davenport motion to adjourn. A. Bryson 2nd. All ayes.

Adjourn: 7:19 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.