

Bonnet Shores Land Trust
Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 25, 2021
Meeting held at the Community Center

The meeting of the Land Trust was called to order by George Monaghan, Chair, at 7:04 PM.

Those in attendance included Trustee's Mary Flynn, Salvatore Loporchio, Arthur Hardy and Chair George Monaghan, Council liaison Bill DelGizzo. Steve Puerini was in Florida and Clerk Len Mercier listened via phone for taking minutes.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the September meeting were approved. Moved by Salvatore and seconded by Mary. Mary was not aware that the Land Trust possibly should oversee the structures on the properties.

Old Business:

Review of conduct for meetings:

Following Roberts Rules and no walking around at the meeting, etc.

Report on progress of Nature Trail behind Community Center

John Carvalho reported that some pictures have been posted on Social Media. 10 more small bridges have been installed. A few more will be built by the Girl Scouts along with some signage. Arthur reported that there is quite a bit of wet spots and that some of the bridges were wobbly and needed to be stabilized. Things are coming along nicely.

Land Acquisition Committee

Steve sent a report on the Land Acquisition Committee work that is attached. George feels that our Tax Collector may be able to generate a list.

Report on Mapping

Arthur had everyone go to the Map on the wall to show parcels that he has tracked along with Paper Roads. The map shows many/most properties as unbuildable as they are either under water and too wet to build on. There was discussion about properties around the pond and some property cleared. Properties previously owned by the Audubon are now owned by the Bonnet Land Trust. There are some properties that are owned by the Narragansett Land Trust. On the map Bonnet Land Trust properties are filled in in Blue, Land Trust is in Brown/Orange and the Narragansett Land Trust property is different. Some people have encroached on paper roads and or other unbuildable properties. All Audubon properties in Bonnet should be changed to Bonnet at this point.

Fundraising Discussion

Discussion on actually needing a project prior to forming any committee. Possibly funding an improvement to the Dock on the pond. Arthur mentioned that a good time to ask for donations would be at the Grand Opening of the Nature Trail.

New Business:

URI Watershed Information

Mary spoke with Elizabeth Hern about the Watershed and she sent Mary an Excel sheet on the testing and tracking of the water. Mary asked her about where tests are taken on the Pond and she said there was not any information on where they did. Usually try to take test at the deepest part of the pond. Recommended setting a spot to always test from along with being able to track the water depth. Mary spoke with Lisa and she said that the Council had secured someone to test the pond and that it would now be done regularly as part of their work. From 2008 to 2010 the pond was a mess and has not been tested since 2018. Mary was thinking that we should budget for the testing but the Council is willing to cover it as they have arranged for it. A motion was made by Mary to include the testing of the pond in the Land Trust Budget for year to come, seconded by Sal and all were in favor. Mary said that every year we should post the results of the pond testing results on the Land Trust Website. Mary is willing to follow up on this. The pond is healthy and the community should know.

Public Comments:

John Carvalho reported that the last meeting of the Council went well. Everyone was quiet, no issues and in order. Very respectful.

Next Meeting

Meetings will continue to be held on the last Monday of the month, 7:00 PM at the community center. Next meeting will be Monday, November 29th.

Adjournment: Mary moved and Salvatore seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM, all were in favor.

Len Mercier, Clerk