

Bonnet Shores Land Trust
Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 29, 2022, 7:00 PM
Meeting held in person at the Community Center.

The meeting of the Land Trust was called to order by George Monaghan, Chair, at 7:05 PM.

Those in attendance included Trustee's Mary Flynn, Salvatore Loporchio, Stephen Puerini, Arthur Hardy, Chair George Monaghan, Clerk Lenny Mercier and Council liaison Bill DelGizzo.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the May 23rd meeting were approved. Moved by Arthur and seconded by Mary. All were in favor.

Old Business:

Nature Trail Update

No report on the Nature Trail.

Land Acquisition Committee

Steven reported on his work on the land acquisition work. It is difficult to get information from the town about the properties. Steven would like to be able to send out letters to the properties that should be contacted but there are many questions as to the best processes for transferring these properties. Lenny recommended that he speak with the attorney, Martha Day, who helped us with the paperwork on the Audubon properties. Lenny will give her information so Steve can speak with her. So far there are approximately 40 parcels with addresses that he can send letters to.

GPS GIS ESRI

There was discussion about the mapping software and the minimal cost that we would have to pay to utilize the software. Mary made a motion that we try the software for one year to see if it does help with the work being done by the Land Trust. Salvatore seconded and all were in favor.

Westquage Pond Watershed Sampling Program Update:

The first test of the pond was done and the coliform level was quite high. At first it was a big deal and then Elizabeth from URI said that it was at ok levels. There was much confusion over this. There are so many things that play into the levels of the pond. Examples are recent rain, where in the pond the testing is done, etc. The levels at the breach way were good.

Retention Ponds

A letter will be sent to the town requesting that the town inspect the retention ponds at Rocs, Dunkin Doughnuts, CVS, The Funeral Home, Cumberland Farms, Credit Union and Centreville Bank.

New Business:

Move to accept David Black's Watershed Plan so he can send it on to DEM

There was discussion about what the cost would be to follow through with this. At this time there are no costs for this. The only comment made was from Arthur saying that he had a problem with the part mentioning a walkway next to the Causeway. After discussion it was decided to strike the walkway from the Watershed Plan. Arthur made a motion to accept the plan without the walkway, Sal seconded and all were in favor.

New Officers

Lenny reported that this being a new year, he and George discussed that the Land Trust should vote for officers for the 2022 – 2023 year. Lenny will not be able to be at every meeting and George would like to step down from being chair and remain on the Land Trust as a Trustee. Anyone interested in the Chair and Clerk's position should let George and Lenny know before the next meeting.

Public Comments:

Neal went to a course at URI and talked with South Kingstown Land Trust and spoke about how large they are with a 500K budget and all their properties and trails. They are a great resource for our Land Trust.

Next Meeting

Meetings will be held on Monday, July 25th, 7:00 PM at the community center.

Adjournment: Mary moved and Salvatore seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM, all were in favor.

Len Mercier, Clerk