

Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust Meeting Minutes
May 9th 2011, New Richmond High School Commons

The May, 2011 meeting of the SPLPT was called to order at 5:00 pm by President Beth Wood. Board members present were Beth Wood, Paul Schottler, Trish Moberg, Mike Kelly, Valerie Hogan and Mike Reiter. Consultant Cheryl Clemens was also in attendance.

The Treasurer's and Secretary's Reports were approved as sent via email.

1. Beth led a discussion on board member term limits and potential new board members. A history of the SPLPT board of director's names and years served from inception in 2002 until present had been provided earlier as an email attachment. Board members for the 2011-2012 year will be named at the July Annual Meeting. Several potential names and credentials for additional board members were discussed. These individuals will be contacted prior to the July Meeting to see if there is interest in serving on the board. A marketing background may be a good fit on the board. The June newsletter will have a section asking for individuals who may be interested also. Val volunteered to send out a questionnaire that would provide information for a designed matrix that would identify attributes of current and future board members.
2. Record storage, organization and documentation will continue with storage of these important documents maintained in the filing cabinet located at Ron's Law Office. Mike R. will continue to coordinate this effort. Any Board member who has the original documents is urged to get them into the system. A database of items maintained there will be provided. Once this is accomplished time lines can be established for annual inspections and other needed activities of the Property and Management Committee. When our documents are compiled work will proceed in the updating of our Board notebooks.
3. It was reported that the gate agreement on the McMurtrie Preserve has yet to be finalized. The status of the Sessions property is also pending. Site inspections of our various properties and easements will be performed this summer when time permits.
4. Trish reported that the Service Learning Day is scheduled for Friday, May 20th. A group of 12 students will be working at the McMurtrie Preserve getting the landscape ready for spring use. Mike K. and Mike R. will oversee the effort making sure that the proper equipment is available for use by the students and the port potties are set up for use.
5. A National Wild Turkey Federation grant and partnership with area Scouts was received on behalf of the Friends of the St Croix Wetland Management District to hold an event this fall. This educational event is set for the weekend of October 21st – 23rd with a campout planned. The McMurtrie Preserve could provide an ideal site for this event. The McMrutrie Preserve was used in a similar way hosting an Order of the Arrow scout outing a few years back. This event would encompass the Eagle River Scouting District. Requirements for merit badges and awards could be satisfied by this event and a special badge has been designed for it. Scout Master Steve Wojan, who was involved in the previous activity, will also be the contact for this one. A decision was made to move forward and allow the scouts the use of McMurtrie Preserve for this event. More information will be available at the next meeting.
6. A bird count will be performed on the Boche property this spring as part of a statewide bird monitoring effort on properties enrolled in the SAFE program.
7. Val gave a report on fundraising and membership efforts and provided a handout of results to date.
8. Grant opportunities were discussed and it was felt that a need should be identified prior to a grant submission.

9. A June newsletter sent out prior to our July Annual meeting is planned with Cheryl again organizing this. An overview of the various SPLPT activities and plans will be provided to her by board members involved in these activities. A description of the various holding of the SPLPT could be included.
10. The SPLPT's Annual meeting will be scheduled in July. Val will contact Bill Hogseth, a speaker from the DNR, who will provide a presentation as part of our meeting. A date will be selected that would fit Bill's availability. A regular SPLPT meeting will be held from 5-6 pm and the Annual Meeting would be set to begin at 6 pm. Trish will look into the availability of the High School Auditorium or other suitable meeting room in the high school depending on attendance. RSVP to Mike R. in advertising the Annual meeting is advised.

The next scheduled meeting will be our Annual Meeting with a short regular meeting beforehand.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Reiter – Recorder