

Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust Meeting Minutes
November 21th, 2011, New Richmond High School

The November, 2011 meeting of the SPLPT was called to order at 5:00 pm by President Beth Wood. Board members present were Beth Wood, Pete Kling, Mike Kelly, Valerie Hogan, Dan Davison and Judy Remington. Also present were Aleisha Miller and Cheryl Clemens

The Treasurer's and Secretary's Reports were approved as submitted.

1. Board Development:

- a) Judy Remington was welcomed to the board. She will serve on the membership committee.
- b) The resignation of Pete Kling was accepted by the board. Pete is taking the position of the interim Director of the Planning and Zoning Department for St. Croix County. Pete was thanked for his years of service to SPLPT
- c) The Vice President position is open with Pete's resignation. Board members were poled for interest in the position. Candidates for the open board position should be identified.
- d) Pete provided copies of the baseline surveys of the Nelson and Schottler easements. These will be stored in the SPLPT file cabinet.

2. Property Management:

- a. The Irlle (October 5th) and Schottler (October 18th) easements were inspected this fall with no issues identified. Both properties have been maintained per their respective agreements. Evaluation forms were completed and copies mailed to the easement holders. Completed forms will be filed in the cabinet at the Siler Law office. Aleisha agreed to conduct the inspections next year and take pictures per the base line surveys.
- b. The 3 people that inquired about conservation easements at the Lower Apple River project open house were contacted via e-mail. Follow up questions were answered for Roger Martin. Club brochures and fact sheets were mailed to R. Martin and Marcy Dorau.
- c. It would appear that issues with the Sessions Property have been settled to everyone's satisfaction, but no confirmation was received from Ron Siler
- d. The desktop signage at Schottlers for information on SPLPT needs to be completed. Val will take care of the sign and Mike K will place SPLPT brochures at the Christmas tree sales barn.

2. Education:

Mike Kelly reported on the boy scout educational and work event led by USF&W at Oak Ridge on October 22nd. About 400 scouts and leaders attended with work crews, displays, and nature talks as part of the event. About 20 scouts camped at McMurtrie on Friday and Saturday.

3. Marketing/PR:

- a. Website hosting fees have been paid. Other changes to the site or upgrades are still under consideration. Dan Michaelis has been provided with the contents of the CD with club documents with a request to make them available on the secure area of the site.

4. Membership Report:

- a. A draft of the Holiday Card similar to last year was circulated for review. Board members will add a personal note to their selected cards. Val will assemble the groups of cards and distribute them to the individual board members, the goal is to complete this in early December.
- b. Cheryl discussed a possible River Protection grant opportunity for SPLPT which could include funds to: Strengthen Organizational Capacity, development of a Presentation on the Trust, Membership recruiting, expanding easement opportunities, etc. This could be done in conjunction with the Lower Apple River project. The grant application must identify a main sponsor, the board needs to make a decision in Jan if we want to be that sponsor. The grant requires a 25% match in volunteer hours by SPLPT. Cost to develop the application would be about \$1000.
- c. Val to invite Deb Ryan of St. Croix River Assoc, to a board meeting (Jan) to discuss possible involvement with the above grant.

5. Upcoming meetings:

- a. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 9th, 2012.
- b. Unless a change to meeting dates is made the SPLPT's meetings are scheduled for the 2nd Monday of every other month.

6. Other:

- a. A decision will be made on the involvement and maintenance of the McMurtrie Preserve property by the Star Prairie Fish and Game Association. Currently the garage on the property is utilized by both groups for property storage. Both organizations also contribute to each others fund raising efforts.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Kelly – Acting Recorder