

## **Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust Meeting Minutes July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011, New Richmond High School Commons**

The July, 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, Dan Davison and Mike Reiter. Consultant Cheryl Clemens along with members Phyllis Menke and Bill Driscoll were also in attendance.

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

1. The terms of Val Hogan, Trish Moberg and Dan Davison have expired and all have agreed to continue on the Board of Directors for another three year term. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved for the selection of the slate of officers for 2011-2012. They include:

President – Beth Wood  
Vice President – Pete Kling  
Secretary – Mike Reiter  
Treasurer – Dan Davison

2. A nomination was made and approved for the addition of Judy Remington as an additional Board Member. This will bring our Board number up to 10 members. Welcome Judy!
3. Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust member Phyllis Menke provided the Trust with a very generous donation. Phyllis has been a staunch supported of the SPLPT since its inception. Thank you Phyllis for all your support, both physically and monetarily. It is greatly appreciated.
4. A motion was made and approved to provide SPF&GA member Chuck Frawley with a \$50 stipend to help cover a small portion of his gas and supplies and to thank him for his generous donation of time and money in helping to maintain the grounds on the McMurtrie Preserve.
5. 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. An updated database of items maintained there will be provided. Val and Cheryl will work to update member notebooks also.
6. It was reported that the gate agreement on the McMurtrie Preserve has yet to be finalized.
7. State Tax Status issues for the Trust have been addressed and corrected.
8. The status of the Sessions property has been determined with appropriate documentation provided.
9. Site inspections of our various properties and easements will be performed this summer. Questionnaires have been sent out and returned. Comparison to baselines will be made.
10. The Nelson Easement, held by the Trust, was discussed. It was felt that easements provided to the Trust were made in good faith and meant to be a permanent protection of the land as defined by the easement wording. Any attempt to tamper in any way with these easements would weaken this protection.
11. A motion was made and approved to prohibit any political partnering or exploitation on lands owned by the Trust. This would include placement of any signs or other endorsements on the properties. Held easements however would not prevent the landowner from doing such.
12. Trish reported that the Service Learning Day was held on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. A group of 12 students worked at the McMurtrie Preserve getting the landscape ready for use. Cabin "summerizing" was performed along with yard and property clean up. A good job was provided by the students.

13. 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. Donations were also received by a variety of other service organizations for tools and supplies to be used on USF&WS invasive species projects. This educational and work event is set for the weekend of October 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> with a campout planned at the McMurtrie Preserve. The McMurtrie Preserve was used in a similar manner 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. Several hundred scouts, parents and scout leaders are planning to attend.
14. A letter in support of the Lower Apple River Project was made by the SPLPT following an overview of the project. Val was the representative on this initiative. A copy of this signed letter was forwarded to Cheryl who was the mediator for the project which included many other partnerships. A copy of this document will also be retained in our files.
15. A June SPLPT newsletter was sent out prior to our July Annual meeting. Cheryl again coordinated this effort. An overview of the various SPLPT activities and plans plus a description of the various holding of the SPLPT were included. A procedure that would standardize the newsletter publication, printing and distribution was determined with the Marketing Committee given responsibility. Providing the appropriate mailing label lists and printing was also addressed.
16. Val gave a report on fundraising and membership efforts via email. We presently have 62 members.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm. with the Annual Meeting and Guest Presentation to immediate follow. (See Annual Meeting Minutes below)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mike Reiter – Recorder

**Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust Annual Meeting Minutes  
July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011, New Richmond High School Auditorium**

President Beth Wood provided an introduction and overview of SPLPT.

The minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting Minutes was read and approved.

Mike Kelly gave a short overview of the accomplishments of the Trust over the last year.

Val Hogan provided membership information and introduced our guest speaker, DNR Conservation Biologist, Bill Hogseth who spoke on Conserving Wisconsin's Biodiversity. Bill then provided the group, numbering more than 25 in attendance, to an excellent presentation followed by a question and answer session. Thank you Bill for a very informative talk and slide presentation. It was very thought provoking!