

**Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust Meeting Minutes**  
**March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 - Suzanna's Restaurant, New Richmond**

The March Meeting of the SPLPT was called to order at 4:15 pm by Vice President Pete Kling.

Board members present were Pete Kling, Mike Reiter, Dan Davison, Paul Schotler, Mike Kelly and Consultants Cheryl Clemens and Aleisha Miller.

The Treasurer's report was approved as read while the Secretary's report was approved as distributed via e-mail.

1. Cheryl passed out Conflict of Interest annual forms for signatures along with copies of the conflict of interest policy description. Several members signed them and presented them to the Secretary for safe keeping.
2. At the last meeting, Dan donated a storage cabinet to house all SPLPT records and documents. Previously, Ron had offered to store this information at his office. An effort will be made to archive all our records and information in a single location. Stu and Pete will meet to gather all the SPLPT's critical documents while Ron will be contacted by Pete about the logistics of document storage.
3. A lengthy discussion ensued on SPLPT meeting times which may conflict with the schedules of several of our board members. It was felt that a "set schedule" of meetings was the best alternative but "time of day" change may provide better board attendance. Pete will poll the board about this after the full board is contacted for their input.
4. Paul brought the group up to date on contacts concerning the SPLPT's involvement in the Cloutier property for easement considerations. This land is located near Somerset with fifteen of the 110 acres in the parcel lying within the village boundaries. Paul and Mike R. met with Bonnie Crisp on site shortly after the January meeting to observe the acreage in question. At our March meeting, after much discussion, it was felt that we were not interested in the property within the village but perhaps could work with that land outside the village limits. The 15 internal acres would not rank high in our land parcel grading system. If the owners were willing, we could meet out on the property after snow melt and make a final review on our grading system for both parcels. Paul will continue to take point on this issue.
5. A 2010 Spring Newsletter for the SPLPT was put on hold and a summer one will be compiled when more information is available for inclusion.
6. The gate to the McMurtrie Property off of highway M has been moved with the posts from the previous installation remaining in place. An agreement with Mick Anderson is yet to be signed concerning the stipulations on the gate. Mick will be contacted by Ron and Pete to bring this issue to a compatible closure.
7. The Irle property easement has been finalized. Ron had provided Mike Kelly with a copy of that easement agreement. Pete will make copies of the Irle easement to be included in the Board of Directors' files.
8. The McMurtrie and Boche property habitat restoration plans will be finalized by the end of April.

9. The educational programming and marketing portion of our Strategic Plan lists the New Richmond Service Learning Day and the Fall Osceola Middle School Outings as the scheduled events. Trish and Aleisha will look into having some of the New Richmond High School students set up a series of learning stations at the McMurtrie Preserve to accommodate elementary New Richmond Students on the NR Service Learning Day outing plus two additional dates. This will be done to accommodate all the students. The dates selected are May 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. It was felt that other activities on the McMurtrie Preserve on those days may cause conflicts.
10. An educational supply list was presented at the last meeting with updates to include two way radios, tarps, a wagon with air tires, books for plant and animal identification and 4 and 6 foot plastic tables for demonstrations. This inventory will be maintained at the McMurtrie Preserve. Aleisha can utilize these supplies as needed for other educational events as well.
11. Some property improvements have been scheduled earlier such as the purchase of portable restrooms and the instillation of the electric pole at McMurtrie Preserve property. The restroom facilities need to be in place by the time of the High School Student Service Day. The electric pole will be installed later this spring. It was felt that any further physical property improvements are not warranted at this time.
12. Pete offered to set up a SPLPT “canned presentation” with talking points for use later this year. Dan provided a DVD from the Kini Land Trust that extols the virtues of easements and other trust activities. We could use sometime like this DVD to promote our land trust. It was also deemed necessary to perhaps have a simple power point presentation explaining who we as the SPLPT really are which can be used to promote ourselves.
- 13. It was felt that it is very important to keep all SPLPT Board Members up to date on any SPLPT activities in a timely manner. We need to send out a short email to the email listing advising everyone what has transpired so that there is no misconceptions on what has or has not been accomplished.**

With no further business the session was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted - Mike Reiter - Recorder

**Addendum:** Toward the end of the March meeting we talked about the possibility of holding the Cedar Lake District’s annual meeting at the McMurtrie Preserve. This would showcase the Preserve and allow many of the lake people to see the preserve for the first time. We probable would need to hold it in the area off M rather than the cabin area because of parking and neighbor conflict. We’d need to keep the usual annual meeting place reserved in case of inclement weather and borrow chairs for the meeting if agreed upon. Stu could bring this idea up to the Lake District to see if there is any interest in our proposal.

On another thought, at our land trust meetings, it might be good to add action items to be updated at the next meeting. This would allow the board to keep on top of responsibilities and make Cheryl's job easier going forward. I took the minutes and arrived at a few action items.

Action Items (3/8/10):

1. Board members and consultants who have not filled out the Conflict of Interest forms should receive one, fill it out and submit it to Sec. Mike for safe keeping. (Stu, Trish, Ron and Beth)
2. We need to assemble our important records and find a suitable place to keep the donated storage cabinet. (Stu, Ron, Pete)
3. Check with the full Board to see if a better time and place might be available for our future meetings. (Pete and Board)
4. Contact Cloutiers and advise them of our decision of easements for their property. (Paul) **This has been accomplished (3/8/2010)**
5. Get information or items of interest for the summer newsletter to Cheryl. (Board)
6. Meet with Mick and get agreements on gate signed. (Pete, Stu, Ron)
7. Copies of the Irle property contact need to be provided to the board for inclusion in their manuals. (Pete)
8. Finalize the Boche habitat restoration plans. (????)
9. Make sure that no other student work is scheduled on the McMurtrie Preserve on the High School Student Service day date.
10. Make sure rest room facilities are available on site prior to the High School Service Day. (Stu, Mike K.)
11. Install the light pole on McMurtrie Preserve whenever help to do this is available. (Stu, Mike K.)
12. Assemble a "canned presentation" to promote the trust. (Pete)