



South Burlington Land Trust Board Meeting Minutes

February 28, 2018

Northfield Savings Bank, Shelburne Road, South Burlington

Present: Sarah Dopp, Penne Tompkins, Michael Mittag, Sophie Mazowita, Allan Strong

Parks and Rec Representative: Paul Steinman

Guest: Debbie Burton (Realtor for 150 Swift St.); departed at 5:54

Minutes: not available for approval.

Treasurer's Report:

Investments doing better than in past years (we made a change in our investment manager and moved to a sustainable, eco-friendly portfolio).

Membership notes:

Very few members that have not renewed for the upcoming year. We are currently at 106 members.

We agreed to reorder more SBLT pins; Penne was going to find a source.

Motion to approve the Treasurer and Membership reports by Penne, seconded by Sophie, and approved unanimously.

Annual Meeting Conversation:

We continued our discussion about who will receive our annual award. We may consider not giving an award this year if we do not have any excellent candidates.

Michael will send out the group invitation to members.

Sarah will supply nametags and check on our paper products supply for the meal and obtain whatever we need.

Allan will continue to look for speakers for the "nature notes" presentation at the meeting.

Board members - Duncan Murdoch will fill our vacancy for the class of 2020.

We will advertise the annual meeting on our website, Facebook, and Front Porch Forum and email to the membership.

Sarah will work to update our neighborhood access to Front Porch Forum.

Group-building activity for the annual meeting – Pair-share activity about interest in SBLT and then report out, each introducing their partner.

Door prize – Michael and Penne will check with the horticultural farm about a tree or shrub.

Michael will bring some adult beverages to the meeting.

Karen will bring the SBLT scrapbooks.

Sarah will assemble the paper products and name tags.

Website/Facebook:

Quarterly newsletter for SBLT. We're looking for ways to increase connection with membership. contact@SBLT.org is a working email address. We don't get much traffic at this address, but we can use this for the mailchimp newsletter for comments and questions. Mailchimp may have the ability to personalize mailings. We can send out simple reminders of board meetings at the same time. Subcommittee will meet on 3/19 at Michael and Penne's at 9:00 to work on the website and FB to update content.

Also note that Sophie will alter the membership form to ask for phone number and other contact information.

Green-up Day:

Michael will let people know that he will be the Green Up Vermont Coordinator for South Burlington. Publicity – We would like articles in The Other Paper on the Thursday before, 3 May (submitted by 26 April; Penne), and have an article for 5 April (submitted by 29 March; Sarah) and a follow-up for 17 May (submitted 10 May; Penne).

The contact list for volunteers will go out from Michael on 2 April and 20 April.

We need four prizes - Book vouchers (Barnes and Noble; Sarah), Food (Leonardo's pizza), another food (Healthy Living), and one more, TBD. Sarah will ask board members not in attendance to solicit the others?

Food and snacks are will be decided in April.

Edlund-Martin:

Sarah contacted Ed Von Turkovich (2/23) about coming to the Natural Resource Committee meeting and as to the status of 150 Swift St. and Edlund-Martin. He has spoken to people in P&Z and he was informed that it would be best to speak to the Planning Commission before going to various committees.

150 Swift St. was under deposit for about 2 years, but they never closed. But, it is now actively being marketed for \$600,000. There are significant questions about the strategy for 150 Swift St. and how this might affect the future development plans. It would affect access and the ability to connect to East Woods Natural Areas.

We discussed SBLT's role in conservation and education around open space.

Wheeler:

Previous ag mitigation restrictions on the property might affect City's ability to enter into a conservation easement. Michael will ask if our task force reps can be included and SBLT be considered an interested party at the executive session.. Seven acres at the corner of Dorset and Park are prime ag land, and to conserve, it has to be a 2:1 exchange. Because of some changes in interpretation of Act 250, the 7 acres will need to be maintained in agricultural "condition," which may simply mean that this area just needs to be brush-hogged every couple years. But, the conversation was tabled to go to the City Council in Executive session. Michael will contact the Council to state that SBLT is an interested party and that we should be present.

Ewing:

Ewing property was discussed at the DRB. Peter and Jack have ensured that there is access to the Shelburne portion of the property, which would have to approach through South Burlington (via Cheese Factory Lane). There are issues in terms of the number of houses (5 vs. 6) that could require that the road be widened. Peter would like to have 6 houses, which will require widening of the road. Unsure of how this will proceed. It also brings up questions about access to the UVM/TNC property on the east side of the property and whether or not they would need to add parking to this road. Current access is from 116.

Belter Farm:

Proposal to subdivide a 286 acre farm into a small (3 acre) homestead parcel and the remaining larger piece. Green Mountain Power wants to put a substation on the property (an additional subdivision), but this is not GMPs first choice for the location.

Parks and Rec update:

Council has charged Parks and Rec with naming the City Center Park. There will be public input which will be advertised on the website and the Other Paper; deadline for naming input will be 7 May.

New name for Bites and Bikes will be under the name of SoBu Rec.

The final Underwood master plan presentation will be on Saturday, last option for public input (9:30-11:00).

Baycrest Park will be completed when the weather is amenable. It will be primarily open space with some trails, playground equipment, and benches.

The final report on South Burlington's recreational facilities, benchmarked against other cities, has been sent to City Council.

Red Rocks management work will move forward this summer with VYCC labor. The budget for summer 2018 will be three times more than 2017.

Submitted by Allan Strong (Secretary pro tem)

Meeting was adjourned at 6:24.