

**Foster Land Trust minutes**  
**December 6, 2016**

Foster Land Trust (FLT)  
Eddy Building  
Foster, RI 02825

The meeting got underway at 7:04 p.m.

Those in attendance: Linda Los Tibbetts, Chair; Walter May, Treasurer; Kristen Cole, Secretary; Dennis Therrien; Mike Carpenter; and Tom Boyden. Myra Mercier was excused.

**Minutes:** The November minutes passed unanimously on a motion from Mike and 2<sup>nd</sup> from Dennis.

**Public comment:** No members of the public in attendance.

**Old business:** No new information about the North/South Trail.

**New business:** Walter heard from the new owner of the Murray property (Barnes) that he may be interested in selling the remnants of his property to FLT after it's subdivided for house lots. There was general discussion that whatever is left over may not fit with FLT mission and goals, and probably would not be suitable for trails or connections with Parker Woodland.

**Stewardship:** Dennis reported that there is no beaver activity at **Spencer, Dunbar** or **Hopkins**. The parking lot at **Spencer** is finished and can hold 4-5 vehicles. There is also space cleared at **Hayfield** near pole 54 for parking, and that space can fit 3-4 vehicles. Linda said that FLT is eligible for funding to create handicapped accessible parking at **Spencer**.

**Financial:** Walter reported that the financial report does not yet reflect the purchase of the additional Spencer property.

**Grants:** Linda said that the deadline for the grant to create printed maps passed, but there is a new deadline in February. **We need to know from Roy Najecki exactly what he needs**, and Linda and Kristen can provide it.

**Liaison reports:** Mike reports that the Planning Board is meeting to discuss the comprehensive plan tomorrow. He mentioned the **Farm Acquisition Program** being launched by the RI DEM, where they would have funds to purchase agricultural land that is threatened by development to re-sell to beginning farmers. It's something that FLT could partner with them on, if suitable land is identified. Mike also reiterated his position about the value of creating a comprehensive map of the town for strategic planning purposes that would include an overlay of FLT, DEM, Audubon, Nature Conservancy, Providence Water and other land owners. This would provide a holistic view for planning purposes that would be useful across many groups. Mike reported that the solar array on Theodore Foster Road (not on FLT property) is up and running under a 20-year arrangement. This brings revenue to the town in an

unobtrusive and eco-friendly way. Mike reports the town council is considering other low-impact revenue generating ideas like creating a town cemetery.

**Public relations:** Nothing new to report.

**Correspondence:** The usual from RI Interlocal Risk Management Trust.

**Future agenda items:** We need to hold officer elections again. We could do this in January or February.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m. The next meeting will be held on January 3, 2017. *(NOTE: The January 3 meeting was later moved to January 17 since the agenda was not posted on time.)*

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Cole