

## Foster Land Trust minutes

October 6, 2015

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

**In attendance:** Linda Los Tibbetts, Chair; Myra Mercier, Vice-Chair; Walter May, Treasurer; Kristen Cole, Secretary; Bill Fortier; Mike Carpenter. Chris Iozzi was absent.

From the public, Roy Najecki (Glocester Land Trust, RI LTC and RI DEM), and Tom Boyden were in attendance.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the September meeting were unanimously approved with no changes. (Motion from Walter and 2<sup>nd</sup> from Kristen)

**Old Business:** The DEM grant for the **Murray** property purchase has been extended for one year, to explore the possibility of the FLT purchasing a portion of that property that was recently sold. The appraisal expense has not yet been submitted for the same reason. Walter is in contact with the new owner and will keep us posted.

Regarding the RILTC grant for the **Hayfield** management plan; Eric Rotundo is now working with the Ponagansett High School students on the Hayfield Management and Ponagansett Trail project (replacing Lauren Andrews), so he needs to get up to speed on the project. He may be able to come to the November meeting. Linda will finalize and submit the management plan draft.

**Stewardship:** **Spencer** property is in good shape; no urgent maintenance needs. Roy has been identifying the survey markers at the north end of the property; there are an abundance of markers and he's working out the actual boundaries and trails. The **Hayfield** trails have all been blazed, with exception of the Ponagansett trail that will be worked on this spring. Walter reports that the sign for the Dunbar property has been purchased – a photo of it is coming this week.

There was another discussion about creating an overlay map showing FLT, PWSB, Audubon, Nature Conservancy, DEM and any open space easements that exist, overlaying that information on a topographical map showing roads, highways, elevations, watershed, etc. as a very helpful tool in guiding town discussions, including updating the Comprehensive Plan. A map like this could help the planning committee identify areas for economic development, areas that need to be protected, etc.

**Financial:** No updates to report.

**Liaison reports:** No updates to report.

**Public relations:** About 21 people attended the FLT / Rhode Island Land Trust Days guided walk at **Hayfield** held on Sept. 20 at 10 a.m. There was discussion about how events like this create opportunities for economic development; people come to Foster to enjoy the hiking, and then they are looking for a place to have lunch. We could create trail maps that have advertisements or directions to our local restaurants and shops.

The NWRISOS will hold another hike at Hayfield on November 7, led by Mark Tremblay. He will point out foundations and other signs of previous habitation on the property. The group will note GIS points for significant areas, with the idea that FLT can install interpretive signs at some point.

**Correspondence:** Walter let us know that Ida Dunbar has passed away; Kristen will send a sympathy card to her son Allen on behalf of FLT.

The Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. pursuant to RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(5).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. The next FLT meeting will be held on November 3.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Cole