

**Foster Land Trust minutes**  
**May 17, 2016**

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

Those in attendance: Linda Los Tibbetts, Chair; Walter May, Treasurer; Kristen Cole, Secretary; Bill Fortier; Dennis Therrien. Mike Carpenter and Myra Mercier were absent.

This was Dennis's first official meeting as a member of the FLT and liaison with Conservation Commission, taking over Chris Iozzi's former slot.

The FLT met on May 17 due to the Financial Town Meeting being held on May 3.

**Minutes:** The March minutes passed unanimously; there was no meeting in April.

**Public comment:** No one from the public was in attendance.

**Old business:** The **Dunbar** baseline documentation is completed and the report is coming soon. The person conducting the survey was able to identify and mark the boundaries.

Walter attended the **RIFCo** meeting on May 14 held at the **Merriman** demonstration woodlot on Howard Hill Road. There was a kiosk showing RIFCo properties, with brief descriptions. FLT can include a photo display with description on the kiosk, and will need to provide photos. Walter will attend a second RIFCo meeting this week to confirm the conservation easement.

**Stewardship:** There is a very large tree down at **Dunbar**, and Dennis will look into removing it. He has already cleared brush around the pond for better fishing access, and also cleared trash from the ball field.

The beavers have returned at **Spencer**; Dennis is watching them for now since they have not yet tried to dam up the sluiceway.

Walter reported that Roy Najecki (Glocester Land Trust, RI LTC and RI DEM) will be mapping the **Tikkanen** property and boundaries for trails. Walter made a motion for the purchase of a range-finder tool that can be used at all FLT properties for the purpose of finding and marking boundaries, at the cost of \$100 or less. Bill seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Financial:** There is still \$15,000 waiting to be invested, with no suitable bonds available for purchase. There was a discussion about revising the requirements for bond purchase, since it can be difficult to find appropriate bonds lately. After discussion there was a motion by Kristen authorizing Walter to

purchase **corporate bonds rated A or above**, and **municipal bonds rated AA and above**, whichever is available and appropriate. Bill seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Walter reported that FLT has secured an additional \$1 million in liability coverage at no additional cost from RI Interlocal Trust Company.

**Grants:** Nothing to discuss.

**Liaison reports:** Dennis has begun attending Conservation Commission meetings. At the last meeting, the CC reported collecting 18,000 lbs. of recyclables during Earth Day activities, with 15 lbs. of “sharps” and 10 lbs. of mercury (!).

There were no other liaison reports.

**Public relations:** Land Trust days are here again. We will hold another event at **Hayfield** in September, and Linda will get in touch with Lily to see if NWRI SOS can volunteer to host and guide the event. We’ll set a date for the event at our next meeting.

There was a discussion about **Foster Old Home Days** coming up, and the possibility of creating a poster or collage to display. No decisions were made.

**Future agenda items:** Walter would like to host a fishing tournament at **Spencer** as a fundraiser for FOP / Gold Star teens. FLT could partner with Trout Unlimited on this – Linda will get in touch with Stan Hopkins.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on June 7, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Cole