

## **Foster Land Trust minutes**

**March 1, 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, Mike Carpenter. Myra Mercier was excused and Chris Iozzi was absent.

Dennis Therrien was also in attendance.

**Minutes:** The February minutes passed unanimously.

**Old business:** Regarding the **Merriman** conservation easement, Walter moved to accept the easement as submitted by RIFCO. Bill seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (with Kristen Cole abstaining, since she was absent from FLT for the past two meetings.) There was a second motion to have the addendum to the easement signed by Walter in the presence of a notary in order to register it as soon as possible. Bill seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously, with Kristen abstaining.

The **Dunbar** baseline documentation will cost \$250 (identify and record flora, fauna, historical artifacts, areas) and can be completed by May. We'll proceed with this, and then decide later this year whether to proceed with baseline documentation for other properties (Hopkins, Grass, LaPolla, Schneider). Also for the Dunbar property, there is an existing survey, but no monuments to mark the boundaries. We'll make note of this for URI when conducting the baseline.

**Stewardship:** There are downed trees and limbs at **Hayfield** and **Spencer** after several winter storms. Dennis will take a look and let us know if we need to call on volunteers for clean-up. At **Dunbar**, Dennis will clear brush around the pond. There appear to be no beaver issues at any of these properties. Dennis has seen some bobcat tracks at **Grass** and **Sainio**.

At **Tikkanen**, there are a few markers and trees down over the logging trail; Dennis is working to clear it. In April/May driveway maintenance can begin there, adding crushed asphalt and removing thorn bushes.

The **Hayfield** management plan and baseline documentation needs to be submitted and approved by DEM in order to proceed with witch hazel harvest there. Linda will submit the plans soon. We can also apply for funding to build a parking lot at **Hayfield**. We also need to create parking/public access points at **Sainio** and **Grass**.

**Financial:** A \$10,000 bond has come due. We previously approved purchase of a \$5,000 municipal bond. There was discussion about allowing for purchase of uninsured corporate bonds for the reinvestment of

the \$10,000 plus the \$5,000 that was previously approved. There was a motion by Kristen to give Walter the authority to purchase corporate or municipal bonds, whatever is most appropriate, with AA or better rating. Bill seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**Grants:** RI DEM has announced recreation grants. There was discussion about creating a picnic area at Dunbar, but nothing was decided.

**Public relations:** The Land & Water Conservation Summit is coming up; no one is planning to attend this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on April 5, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Cole